

ings, the awards are made by the Tribunal. In respect of road accidents that occurred during 1989 involving DTC buses and where claims have been preferred before the Motor Accident Claims Tribunals, the tribunals have passed compensation awards in 17 cases. In pursuance thereof DTC have deposited with the Tribunals a sum of Rs.7.653 lakhs. towards compensation.

[*Translation*]

**S.T.D. Service in Uttar Pradesh**

532. SHRI RAM PRASAD CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) The Names of the places in Uttar Pradesh which are proposed to be linked with S.T.D. Service during the year 1990; and

(b) the policy and proposals of Government in regard to linking the rural areas with S.T.D. Service?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Ballia, Behraich, Barabanki, Deoria, Gonda, Hardoi, Maunath Bhanjan, Azamgarh are proposed to be linked with STD service March, 1990.

(b) The provisional objective for the 8th Plan period is to provide STD Facility to rural areas as per the following priorities:-

- (i) All sub-Divisional Headquarters/ equivalent Block Development office/ Tehsil headquarters.
- (ii) All exchanges of country 500 lines or more as on 1.4.90.
- (iii) All Industrial Growth Centres, Tourist and pilgrimage Places.
- (iv) Other automatic telephone ex-

changes subject to feasibility.

[*English*]

**Pension for Freedom Fighters**

533. SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules and guidelines regarding eligibility for drawing freedom fighters pensions;

(b) whether complaints have been received about grant of central pension to freedom fighters against wrong certificates during the last one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) The following sufferings in connection with the freedom struggle qualify a sufferer for grant of freedom fighter pensions by the Government of India;

i) Imprisonment of six months before independence in mainland jails. However, Ex- INA Personal will be eligible for pension if the imprisonment/ detention was outside India. In case of Women/SC & ST fewsom fighters, the minimum period of imprisonment is three months.

*Explanation*

Detention under the orders of competent authority will be considered as imprisonment. Period of normal remission upto one month will be treated as part of actual imprisonment. Under-trial period will be counted towards actual imprisonment. Broken period of imprisonment will be totalled up for computing the qualified period.

(ii) Remaining Underground for six months or more against warrant of arrest/ detention order.

(iii) Internment in home or Externment from district for a period of six months or more.

(iv) loss of Property owing to confiscation and /or attachment.

(v) Permanent incapacitation during firing or lathi charge.

(vi) Loss of job (Central or State Government) and thereby means of livelihood.

(vii) Punishment of 10 or/ more strokes of caning /flogging.

Families of Martyrs and freedom fighters no longer alive, are also eligible for grant of pension. Application should be produced along with official documentary evidences/ acceptable certificates under the scheme in support of claimed suffering.

(b), (c) and (d) Freedom fighters pension is sanctioned in each case after thorough scrutiny. However, complaints are received that some freedom fighters managed to get pension by furnishing false information/certificates. Such complaints are examined with reference to available records and in doubtful cases, reference is made to the State Government concerned for verification. In those cases where there are strong presumption that freedom fighter is not worthy for grant of pension, action is taken to suspend the pension pending further investigation. On completion of the enquiry, if the pension is found to have been wrongly sanctioned, it is cancelled, Otherwise, if it is found genuine, the pensioner is allowed to continue receipt of the pension sanctioned. No records of such cases are being maintained separately.

### **Satellite port at Ennore**

534. SHRI D. PANDIAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for the development of the satellite port at Ennore Madras has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when the port is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

### **Chartered Buses Plying in Delhi**

535. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Chartered buses plying in Delhi carrying office/factory goers by picking up passengers enroute from different places;

(b) whether the playing of such buses is permitted under the Motor Vehicles Act; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to bring such offenders to book?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration has intimated that Chartered buses operate under Contract Carriage permits. The total number of Contract Carriage permits issued by them and valid as on 8.3.1990 number 5633.

(b) The contract Carriage permits are