

3. Newspapers/journals should have an uninterrupted and regular publication for a period of not less than four months and should comply with the provisions of Press & Registration of Books Act, 1867 before they qualify for consideration for placing Government advertisements. For quarterly journals, they have

to bring out at least two issues before they are considered.

4. Newspapers/journals should have the following minimum print area to be acceptable for Government advertising:

<i>Periodically</i>	<i>Print area not less than</i>
Dailies	— 760 St. Col. Cms.
Weeklies & Fortnightlies	— 480 St. Col. Cms.
Monthlies & Other Periodicals	— 960 St. Col. Cms.

Exceptions might be made in the case of newspapers/journals published in tribal language or primarily for tribal readership.

5. Circulation of all newspapers/journals should be certified by a Chartered Accountant or by a Professional and reputed accounts body or institution

Retirement age for Pilots

1014. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has allowed pilots to fly till they reach the age of sixty;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have considered the growth of unemployed persons in this field; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). Prior to 1991 there was no prescribed maximum age for issue of licence to Pilots. Taking into consideration relevant factors such as safety in commercial aviation, requirement of Pilots and their employment status, Government have prescribed with effect from 7.2.91 the maximum age for issue of Professional Pilots licence at 60 years.

Cochin Airport

1015. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for modernisation and expansion of the runway of Cochin airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct a new airport at Cochin; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (d) There is neither a proposal to expand the existing runway nor to construct a new airport at Cochin

Shortage of Pig Iron in West Bengal

1016 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH
SHRI HARADHAN ROY
DR ASIM BALA

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware that shortage of pig iron in West Bengal has led to crisis in foundries there

(b) the requirements of pig iron for foundries in West Bengal

(c) the allocations made by the Government and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for allocation of more quantity to the State for the smooth functioning of the industry

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Representations have been received regarding shortage of pig iron being faced by some units. This is mainly due to the poor lifting of material against offers made to the West Bengal Small Industries Corporation (WBSIC) by main producers

(b) Most of the foundry units in West Bengal are in the small scale sector. The requirement of pig iron for small scale industries including foundry units in West Bengal as indicated by Director of Industries, West Bengal, is 1,00,000 tonnes for the year 1992-93

(c) The total allocation of pig iron made

by the Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel (DCI&S) for small scale units of West Bengal including foundry units during the year 1992-93 is 75,000 tonnes (33,500 tonnes to the WBSIC and 41,500 tonnes to the Indian Foundry Association). Requirements of industries other than small scale units are met directly by the main producers in accordance with their distribution guidelines

(d) The allocation of pig iron made for small scale industries in West Bengal during the current year is 46.3% higher than the last year. DCI&S has requested WBSIC to respond quickly to offers made by the main producers. He has also advised the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and Indian Iron and Steel Company to supply directly to the consumers the quantity against lapses of offers.

To enable pig iron user industries to meet their full requirements, pig iron has been made freely importable. Import duty on pig iron has also been reduced from 55% to 35% with effect from 16th January, 1992. Government have also taken steps to encourage production of pig iron in the private sector.

Augmentation of T.V. Transmissions in North Eastern States

1017 SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARIDEVI
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether there are any projects to augment T.V. transmission, especially in tribal local languages in North Eastern States including Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Manipur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS)