

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (d) MIG—21 BIS aircraft is proposed to be upgraded to uprate its operational capabilities. On the basis of some proposals we have received, preliminary discussions are being held with Russians, among others.

Mushrooming of Jhuggi Jhonpri

664. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a clear policy in respect of unauthorised mushrooming of Jhuggi Jhonpri colonies around authorised colonies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have ever considered any proposal for an all party meeting on the subject;

(d) whether the pollution and environmental factors of the issue have been studied; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b), According to Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi only the eligible families in J.J. clusters of identified priority sites and which were in existence in January, 1990 are to be relocated to alternate sites at the request of the land owning agencies under the approved guidelines, Jhuggis which have emerged on public land after this date are to be removed by the land owning agencies as and when they are detected. GNCTD have set up Serial Violence Teams headed by Addl. District Magistrates DDA, DCD and the Police are also represented in these teams to detect encroach-

ments and to pursue action to remove them.

(c) No proposal for a joint meeting of all affected parties was considered in the recent past.

(d) No conclusive study exclusively on the pollution and environmental factors of J. J. Colonies has been carried out by the Government.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

Induction of 'Arjun' Tank into Service

665. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the main battle tank 'Arjun' has since been handed over to the Army and deployed in different sectors;

(b) if so, the number of such tanks delivered and deployed so far; and

(c) the salient features and comparative advantages of this tank over other MBTs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Six Pre—Production Series ARJUN tanks have been handed over to the Army in June 1993 for User—cum—Troop trials. These trials are in progress. ARJUN tank has not yet been deployed by the Army.

(c) ARJUN incorporates state—of—the—art technologies like the modern integrated fire—control system, commander's panoramic sight, hydropression and armour (Kanchan). In all the principal attributes demanded in a contemporary Main Battle Tank (viz. fire power, mobility and protection), ARJUN compares very favourably with other tanks of its class in the world.