

[Translation]

International Space Armament Exhibition

2678. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI STAYA DEO SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether International Space Armament Exhibition was organised in Dubai recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arms company of India had not participated in the exhibition; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES) (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI) : (a) and (b). An international air show was held in Dubai in November, 1995.

(c) and (d). In two international defence exhibitions every year all our production units participate. They had, inter alia, participated in the exhibition held in Abu Dhabi in March 1995. In addition, individual production units, keeping in view the commercial potential, participate in various other exhibitions. None of them decided to be represented at the Dubai air show. However, an official delegation represented India in response to the invitation received from the organisers.

[English]

Drinking Water in Assam

2679. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the severe scarcity of drinking water in various districts of Assam; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure availability of adequate potable drinking water in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R.K.DHAWAN) : (a) and (b). Water Supply being a State subject, the State Governments/Local Bodies/Water Boards are to plan, design, implement, monitor, operate and maintain the Urban Water Supply Scheme. This Ministry has not received any information from the State Govt. of Assam regarding severe scarcity of water in various districts of Assam.

However, under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, one scheme for Namrup town was approved during 1994-95 at a cost of Rs.135.31 lacs. Seven other Detailed Project Reports for the towns Palasbari, Bilasipara, Sarthebari, Lakhipur, Sonari,

Nazira, Gossaigaon were received from the Govt. of Assam. Some additional information and clarifications were sought from the State Government on technical points which are still awaited.

Based on the scheme guidelines and funds available under the programme during the 8th Five Year Plan, schemes costing upto 218 lacs can be approved for the State of Assam, including for Namrup town.

Railway Passes to Group 'D'

2680. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued an order to provide with 2 sets of railway passes to these Group 'D' Railway employees who retired during the year 1994 and afterwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Group 'D' Railway employees who retired before 1994 have not been provided with 2 sets of passes;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to provide with 2 sets of passes to the above category employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (e). Group 'D' Railway Servants with minimum of 25 years of railway service who retired prior to 01.07.1993 are eligible for 1 set of post-retirement complimentary pass in alternate year and those who retired after 01.07.1993 are eligible for 1 set of post-retirement complimentary pass every year.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi

2681. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States, where Hindi language has been authorised besides English in the proceedings and verdicts of High Courts;

(b) whether the Government are considering to authorise Hindi besides English in the proceedings and verdicts of Delhi High Court; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to bring a bill in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Four States, namely; Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorised the use of Hindi in addition to English language in the proceeding as well as judgements, decrees etc. for the High Court of their States.

(b) and (c). The Parliamentary Committee on Official