

for higher education and training where such training facilities exist in the country. Doctors belonging to scarce categories are not sponsored for employment abroad.

- (ii) advance increments are granted to specially qualified candidates on the recommendations of the Union and State Public Service Commissions.
- (iii) improvements in the service conditions of doctors, particularly those serving in the rural areas are being brought about by the State and Union Territory Governments.
- (iv) arrangements have been made for holding of the prestigious membership examinations by the National Board of Examinations which correspond to foreign qualifications e.g. FRCS, MRCP, etc.
- (v) the Ministry of Finance on the basis of the recommendations of the 8th Finance Commission have agreed to provide special grants amounting to Rs. 352.44 lakhs annually for payment of rural allowance to doctors posted in the Primary Health Centres during 1985-86 and 1986-87. This will be in addition to a sum of Rs. 101.40 lakhs during 1985-86 and Rs. 93.78 lakhs during 1986-87 for House Rent Allowance to doctors who have not been provided with residential accommodation.

Attappady and Chimony Projects

3074. SHRI P.A. ANTONY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Attappady and Chimony projects of Kerala are pending with the Union for clearance for more than ten years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when these are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). Attappady Irrigation Project in the Cauvery Basin is awaiting clearance from inter-State angle. Chimoni Irrigation Project is under examination in Central Water Commission in respect of water availability and the design flood discharge for spillway. This project can be cleared after these aspects are satisfactorily settled.

Non availability of Vegetarian Food on Indian Airlines Flights

3075. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on Indian Airlines Services many times passengers are not served vegetarian food;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there was shortage of vegetarian food on 8 July, 1986 on flight No. IC 162 from Cochin to Bombay and on 17 July, 1986 on flight No. IC 181 from Bombay to Delhi; and

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor and steps Government propose to take to avoid inconvenience to passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) On flight IC-162 of 8.7.86 there were 126 passengers for which 108 non vegetarian, 18 vegetarian and 5 extra vegetarian dishes were provided. On flight IC-181 of 17.7.86, for 273 passengers, 148 non vegetarian, 125 vegetarian and 7 extra vegetarian dishes were provided. No complaints have been received from passengers about the shortage of vegetarian meals on these two flight.

(c) Does not arise.

Air Connection of Rajkot with Delhi

3076. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that from Rajkot, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Keshod, Porbunder