

Benefits to Employees of Indian Naval Canteen Service

1403. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the benefits and facilities given to the civilian employees in Navy will be given to the employees of Indian Naval Canteen Service;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how many civilian employees are working in Indian Naval Canteen Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). The members of the Indian Naval Canteen Service are not Government servants; they are not paid out of public funds. However, they are generally being given the Pay, House-Rent Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and other benefits and facilities such as LTC, Medical Cover, Children's Education Allowance, as per the scales applicable to Central Govt. employees. In addition, ad-hoc grants and ex-gratia payments are also being given to the employees of Indian Naval Canteen Service.

(c) As on the 1st July, 1988, the strength of the employees of the Indian Naval Canteen Service was 250.

Short take off and landing Airport at Bombay

1404. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a STOLPORT (Short take off and landing airport) at Cuffe Parade, South Bombay at the cost of Rs. 5 crores;

(b) whether the project has been opposed from certain quarters; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) The IAAI is studying certain possibilities for easing congestion at Bombay airport including setting up of a STOLPORT airport.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This proposal is only at a conceptual stage. However, while taking the decisions in such matters, all facts which are relevant, are taken into account.

Discussions on Growth Rate in Eighth Plan

1405. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP:
SHRIMATI MANEMMA ANJIAH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions took place in recent weeks on growth priorities and investment priorities in the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the growth rate fixed for the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). A discussion on the target of growth rate for the Eighth Plan took place in recent weeks. Details of the growth priorities and investment priorities are yet to be settled.

(c) The targeted growth-rate of 6 per cent in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the Eighth Plan has been fixed. It may be mentioned that the exercises on the Approach Paper to the Eighth Plan is underway. It would bring out the specific objectives and strategies to be followed. After the completion of the Approach Paper, the Draft Plan would be prepared indicating the growth priorities and investment priorities.

Shimla Observatory

1406. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: