

	1	2	3
29. West Bengal		9	6
30. More than one State/State not indicated		7	1
Total		192	153

[English]

Newsprint Policy

3081. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers have urged Union Government to relax the newsprint and accreditation policies with regard to small and medium newspapers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K.K. TEWARY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Federation urged upon the Government to formulate a simple procedure for allotment of newsprint to Small & Medium newspapers by dispensing with the requirements of certificate from the Chartered Accountant and the Income Tax declaration. It also desired that the allotment of newsprint should be on a system of repeat allotment on the basis of which the previous allotment was made. The federation also suggested that Government should adopt a scheme to provide limited accreditation to small and medium newspapers.

(c) The suggestions of the Federation

on Small & Medium newspapers have been noted. The existing arrangements are quite adequate.

Voluntary retirement scheme in Neyveli Lignite Corporation

3082. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce voluntary retirement scheme in Neyveli Lignite Corporation in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if not, whether the employees willingness for this scheme in Lignite Corporation at Neyveli is being ascertained; and

(c) whether Government while introducing such a scheme, propose to consider providing employment to the educated youths of the employees of N.L.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b). Neyveli Lignite Corporation has sought the approval of the Government to introduce a voluntary retirement scheme for its employees, initially for a period of six months.

(c) No, Sir.

Development of Rameshwaram as Tourist Spot

3083. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to develop Rameshwaram as tourist spot has been received from Tamil Nadu Government;

(b) whether there is also a proposal to construct Yatri Niwas for tourists at Rameshwaram; and

(c) if so, the details of financial assistance proposed to be provided by Union Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism have sanctioned Rs. 18.45 lakhs for the construction of a Tourist Reception Centre at Rameshwaram. However, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for the construction of Yatri Niwas at Rameshwaram.

Training of SC/ST in flying clubs etc.

3084. SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flying clubs and institutions in the country which receive Government grants and financial aid;

(b) whether such clubs or institutions are required to make reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes while selecting candidates for training;

(c) if so, how many such clubs and institutions are making these reservations;

(d) the number of SC and ST trainees in these flying clubs and institutions; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure that the reservation is introduced and is followed by these clubs and institutions strictly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Gas based Power Plant in Kerala

3085. SHRIVAKKOMPURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 18th July 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 226 regarding gas based power plant in Kerala and state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has approached Union Government for supply of fuel for the proposed gas based power plant at Brahampuram, Cochin; and

(b) if so, the response of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). As no natural gas is available in Kerala at the question of supply of natural gas for the State does not arise. No commitment for supply of fuels can be made keeping in view the long terms balance of these fuels.

Gas based power unit at Auraiya

3086. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first 120 MW gas based power unit at Auraiya is out of operation following a major breakdown in the last week of April 1989;

(b) whether the break-down occurred after only about a month of its synchronisation due to major fault;

(c) whether the Japanese company who had erected the plant and commis-