

U.S. Charge d'affairs letter written on behalf of a private firm

3453. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. Charge d'affairs in India wrote a letter to Government of India on behalf of a private firm, CF Braun and Co.;

(b) if so, the contents of this letter;

(c) whether it is in consonance with well-established diplomatic conventions for such communications being addressed by diplomats on behalf of private firms; and

(d) Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Charge d' Affaires of the United States had written a letter to the Ministry of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India, in September, 1980 concerning the award of certain contracts to the firm, M/s C.F. Braun & Co. It is normal for diplomatic missions to take an interest in the affairs of commercial firms from their countries and to communicate on such matters with the governments of their accreditation. Correspondence between the Government of India and foreign governments or their accredited missions is usually treated as confidential in nature.

(d) Does not arise.

Bad climate allowance

3454. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Eastern Railway Authority fully paid the bad climate allowance to the Railway employees of Koraput district, Orissa;

(b) if so, the date and amount thereof;

(c) if not yet, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the other problems of the employees of the Koraput have been considered by the concerned authority for fulfilling them; and

(e) if so, what are the problems thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) Disbursements were completed by about October 1980, the amount disbursed being Rs. 2,68,873.61

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). There was a demand for augmenting the water supply at Koraput.

Action to augment water supply at this station is already being taken in consultation with the Public Health Department of the Government of Orissa.

Night bus service between I.S.B.T. and R. K. Puram

3455. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Night Bus Service of Delhi Transport Corporation linking ISBT with R.K. Puram does not touch South Moti Bagh and Shantiniketan colonies and goes straight to R.K. Puram via Sangam Cinema; and

(b) if so, the difficulties which lie in the way of the DTC to route this Bus through the inter-section of Shanti Path, Ring Road and Rao Tula Ram Marg to serve these colonies also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.