

context of the Sivaram Committee Report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to convene a separate meeting of State Industry Ministers to evolve a concerted view point on the definition of backward areas, in the light of the recommendations of the Sivaraman Committee. No date has yet been fixed for the meeting.

आयुद्ध कारखाने

3101. श्री सत्यदेव सिंह: क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में एक भी आयुद्ध कारखाना नहीं है और प्रत्येक राज्य में कितने-कितने आयुद्ध कारखाने हैं।

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार बिहार में एक आयुद्ध कारखाना स्थापित करने का है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शिवराज वी. पटील): (क) से (ग) वर्तमान अध्या प्रस्तावित आइनेंस फ़ैक्टोरियों के संबंध में कोई विवरण देना सार्वजनिक हित में नहीं है।

Casual Employees in Western Naval Command Bombay with over six or Seven Years Service

3102. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about six to seven thousand employees are working as casual employees for over 6 or 7 years in F. O. C. in Chief, Western Naval Command Bombay, and if not the number of such casual employees and the period for which they are so working;

(b) whether it is not a fact that the duties of casual employees are the same as that of other employees and the nature of job of all the casual employees is permanent;

(c) whether it is not a fact that a compulsory break in service of casual employees is given to break their continuity in service and these workers are paid under old scales even after the declaration of new scales by the Third Pay Commission; and

(d) whether Government propose to take any action in the matter to remove the discrimination and if not, the reasons and if so, the action proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) The total number of casual employees in F.O.C. in Chief Western Naval Command Bombay, is 3466. The break up is as under:—

Casual employees with less than 1 year service—1084

Casual employees with 1 to 3 years service—1405

Casual employees with 3 to 7 years service—854

Casual employees above 7 years service—123

(b) The duties of casual employees are the same as those of other regular employees in the same posts. However, the nature of job of casual employees is generally not permanent.

(c) In accordance with instructions issued in November 1979, no break in service is to be given in respect of casual employees for posts which are considered essential and are to be further continued. Break in service, however, is being given in the case of a small number of casual employees employed for spot jobs on as required basis. All casual employees are, however, paid as per the new pay scales introduced on the re-

commendations of the Third Pay Commission.

(b) Government is actively considering the question of regularisation of the services of the casual employees who are required on a long term basis.

Site for Naval Academy

3103. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have received the expert committee report on findings a suitable site for establishing a Naval Academy; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

News Item Captioned "2 IAF Pilots to Train for Space flight"

3104. SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a news item appearing in the "Patriot" dated 28th January, 1981 under the caption "2 IAF pilots to train for space flight";

(b) if so, the details of the pilots selected for the purpose of training that they will have to undergo in U.S.S.R.,

(c) the details of Soviet Cosmonaut who visited India recently, the discussions he held with Indian counterparts, who invited him, whether the visit was official or private;

(d) the time by which Indian cosmonauts are expected to fly in space and whether the spacecrafts will be

entirely Soviet built or with Indian collaboration and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether similar request to train Indian pilots has also been received from USA, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, whether Government of India are considering to approach US Government in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of USSR have offered participation by an Indian Astronaut in one of their future space flights and the Government of India have indicated their willingness to accept this offer. Details have not yet been worked out.

(c) The Soviet Cosmonaut in question visited India in his personal capacity.

(d) As stated above, the details have not yet been worked out.

(e) and (f). No, Sir.

Pak pilots in USA for test flight of F 16-79 fighter aircraft

3105. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to news appearing in The Hindustan Times dated 19th February, 1981 that a team of Pakistani Air Force test pilots are going to the United States to test fly American F 16-79 Fighter aircraft; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Government have seen the news item.

(b) All events in our security environments are closely monitored while updating plans for our defence preparedness.