

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) With the improvement in load factors and induction of more economical aircraft, the economic viability of Vayudoot is expected to improve considerably.

**Stagnation in cadre of Stenographers, Grade 'C' in Armed force, Headquarters**

4156. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute stagnation in the cadre of Stenographers Grade 'C' in the Armed Forces Headquarters;

(b) the number of Stenographers Grade 'C' who have put in more than 15 years of service but have not received even their first promotion;

(c) what steps Government have taken to improve the promotion prospects of this category of Stenographers;

(d) Whether hundreds of Stenographers Grade 'C' working in the Armed Forces Headquarters are still clamouring for their very first promotion to Stenographer Grade 'B'; if so, reasons thereof; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take immediately to ensure that at least Stenographers Grade 'C' who have put in 13-14 years or more service are given promotion so as to remove the discontentment and demoralisation amongst them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) There is stagnation in Grade 'C' of the AFHQ

Stenographers Service but this is not peculiar to the AFHQ only.

(b) 185.

(c) To mitigate stagnation, the following steps have been taken so far:—

(i) 103 Selection Grade posts (Rs. 650-960) sanctioned with effect from 1-8-1976;

(ii) 63 posts of Steno Grade 'C' upgraded to Steno Grade 'B' on ad hoc basis (45 from 6-8-1977 and 18 from 10-12-1979);

(iii) 19 posts of Steno Grade 'C' upgraded to Steno Grade 'B' on 5-8-1982 consequent to the upgradation of the Service Officer posts.

(d) and (e) 344 Stenographers Grade 'C' are yet to get their first promotion. This includes 185 those who have rendered more than 15 years of service in the grade.

The question regarding the improvement of career prospects of Stenographers is being examined by the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms, in which the Ministry of Defence are also participating.

**Norms for production of salt in case of Exporters**

4157. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any norms have been fixed for the production of salt in case of exporters of salt;

(b) if so, from what date the norms will be applicable;

(c) whether Coramandel Mini Salt Association of Tuticorin has been permitted to export salt; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). No norms have been fixed so far for production of salt in case of exporters of salt. However, State Trading Corporation, which is the centralising agency for export of salt is expected to finalise the norms shortly.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Credit Guarantee Scheme for Small Units

4158. SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Credit Guarantee Scheme for small scale industries by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation;

(b) whether it is compulsory for all the term lending organisations like State Finance Corporation and Banks and whether it is linked to refinance from I. D. B. I.;

(c) whether it is a fact that after introduction of this scheme SSI units have to pay more rate of interest than medium and large scale industries; and

(d) if so, Government's policy towards S. S. I. units in comparison with medium and large scale industries in respect of rate of interest to be charged against the term loans?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) The Credit Guarantee Scheme of the Central Government for Small Scale Industries was cancelled with effect from the 31st March, 81. In place of the above scheme, the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) introduced its own scheme with effect from the 1st April 81 to provide continuity of guarantee cover to advances to Small Scale Industries. This followed the recom-

mendations of a Working Group appointed by the Central Government and was also in pursuance of a recommendation in this regard by the Lok Sabha Estimates Committee. The Scheme of the DICGC has been designed to provide guarantee support on a graduated scale weighted in favour of small borrowers so as to make it worthwhile for credit institutions to prefer small borrowers. It provides guarantee cover to the extent of (i) 90 per cent of the amount in default in respect of borrowers with aggregate credit facilities not exceeding Rs. 25,000 and technician entrepreneurs upto Rs. 2 lakhs; (ii) 75 per cent of the amount in default in respect of borrowers with aggregate credit facilities not exceeding Rs. 2 lakhs; and (iii) 50 per cent of the amount in default in respect of borrowers with aggregate credit facilities exceeding Rs. 2 lakhs (66-2/3 per cent for borrowers in backward districts) subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 10 lakhs. The Guarantee fee at the rate of 3/4 per cent p. a. is payable by participating credit institutions on advances exceeding Rs. 25,000/- and a concessional rate of fee at the rate of 1/2 per cent p.a. on advances upto Rs. 25,000/-. The Guarantee cover is automatic and in bulk. From the date of first disbursement all eligible credit facilities granted to specified categories of borrowers for purposes mentioned in the Scheme are covered without requiring the credit institutions to make a prior application to the Corporation for covering each credit facility. The guarantee cover is applicable both for term loans as well as for working capital advances.

(b) The participation in the DICGC Scheme is entirely voluntary; its guarantee cover is available only to those credit institutions who join the scheme by executing the prescribed agreement. Under the IDBI refinance scheme the credit institutions are required to get DICGC guarantee cover in respect of loans to SSI units for availing of refinance. This