

(ग) क्या सरकार को लोगों से इस कार्य को करने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबन्धी ब्योरा क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मन्त्रालय के राज्य मन्त्री (श्री खुर्शीद आलम खां) : (क) से (घ) ऐतिहासिक, सांस्कृतिक, पुरातात्विक महत्व के स्थानों, जैसे कि मथुरा और वाराणसी, के संरक्षण और विकास की जरूरत के बारे में सरकार को जानकारी है। इन शहरों के पर्यावरण, स्वच्छता और विशेषकर घाटों में सुधार लाने के लिए उपाय अभिनिर्धारित करने और उन्हें कार्यान्वित करने के लिए यह प्रस्ताव है कि केन्द्र और राज्य सरकार के संसाधनों को एकत्र किया जाए। इस कार्य में प्राइवेट इंस्टिट्यूशनों और चैरिटेबल ट्रस्टों को भी सहयोजित किया जाएगा। तथापि, ब्योरों को अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है।

U.S.A. Arms Supply to India

3305. SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have expressed interest in buying arms worth \$ I billion the U.S.A. ; and

(b) what is the range of sophisticated arms supply, if any, to be supplied by the USA ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) and (b) There is no specific proposal under consideration of the Government for purchasing arms worth \$ one billion from the USA. However, for maintaining our Armed Forces in an optimum state of readiness, procurement of sophisticated defence equipment is a continuing process. For this purpose, evaluation of equipment produced in a number of countries, including USA, is an on-going process. It would not be in the public interest to disclose further details.

Delays in the Office of Accountant General Bihar

3306. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that consequent upon the release, from time to time of fresh instalment of dearness allowance to Central Government Employees, fresh/revised Pay Authority Slips in respect of All India Services Officers in Bihar were generally not issued suo moto by Bihar Accountant General's Office and that the same were issued only after undue delay or on being pursued by the officer(s) ;

(b) if so, Government's reactions there to and proposals, if any, to remedy this situation ; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue orders on the lines they had done earlier for other Central Government Employees for All India Services Officers of Bihar to rid them of avoidable harassments/inconveniences they are subjected to by AG, Bihar, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c) In view of the large number of officers (about 750 in number) involved, issue of revised pay slips usually takes about a month after the receipt of Government orders releasing fresh instalment of Dearness Allowance. In May 1981, the State Government prepared a scheme for taking over work relating to authorisation of salary to Gazetted Officers from the Account General. The scheme was scrutinised and returned by the Account General with his comments. No final decision has been taken by the State Government in the matter.

Shipment of Barjamda Iron-Ore from Vizag and Haldia Ports

3307. SHRI M.M. LAWRENCE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are thinking of exploring the possibilities of shipping and Barjamda iron-ore from ports like Vizag and Haldia ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and