rate additional/tourist traffic, etc. are taken into consideration.

(c) The Government of India cannot unilaterally reduce the fares to/from the Gulf countries which are considered reasonable by the airlines operating to this area.

Nuclear Explosion by Pakistan

1722. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the statement of the President of the Nuclear Control Institute in Washington saying that Pakistan may soon set off a nuclear explosion has come to the notice of Government; and
- (b) if so, the assessment of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Available information suggests that Pakistan is continuing her efforts to acquire Uranium enrichment and nuclear fuel reprocessing capability which would enable her to detonate a nuclear device.

Bank Deposits and Advances given in Kerala

1723. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) how much is the bank deposits in Kerala since 1982 and the advancements given in the State; and
- (b) is there any deposit advancement ratio, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the low advancement by the nationalised and other scheduled banks in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTA-BHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b) Available data in respect of deposits and advances of public sector banks and other Scheduled Commercial Banks in the State of Kerala as at the end of December 1982 is set out in the table below:

DEPOSITS/ADVANCES OF SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANKS IN KERALA AS AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1982

Depo- Advan- C.D sits ces Ratio (%)

- Public Sector Banks (including R.R.Bs.) 150178 100388 66.9
- Other Scheduled Commercial Banks 57358 37145 64,8

All Scheduled Commercial Banks 207536 137483 66.3

The Credit: Deposit Ratio of Public Sector banks was 66.9 per cent in Kerala. Their all-India average C:D Ratio was 68.0 per cent. Including their investments in securities of State Govt. and shares, bonds, debentures etc. of associate bodies, the Credit+Investment: Deposit Ratio of the Public Sector Banks in the State of Kerala stood at 79.9 per cent as at the end of December 1982 which was higher than the all-India ratio of 76.9 per cent.

Back-log of Reconciliation work and Accounts in Banks

1724. DR. PRATAP WAGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the banks in the country have a huge back-log of reconciliation work and accounts had not been squared up since 1977;
- (b) if so, the details of such inter-bank and intrabank dealings which had not been sorted out since long; and
- (c) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTA-BHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that there are considerable arrears in the reconciliation of inter-branch accounts in banks relating to old transactions up to 1977 and succeeding years. There were about 378 lakhs entries (both debit & credit) involving an aggregate amount of about Rs. 3,21,549 crores was outstanding in inter-branch accounts of

public sector banks as on December 31. 1982.

(c) Under the accounting system followed in banks, there is an inherent time lag ranging from three months to six months between dates of inter-branch transactions and their reconciliation. However, the main reasons for older entries remaining unreconciled are attributable to various factors such as delay in submission of daily schedules by branches/incorrect compiliation of the schedules, non-availability of certain old records and manual reconciliation in certain banks etc. Government and Reserve Bank of India are alive to the situation. Instructions have been issued for liquidating the arrears in a time bound programme. Bank have taken corrective steps, both organisational and operational, to improve the position. Many banks have reserted to mechanisation of the process of reconciliation work on an on-going basis and have sought the assistance of computer agencies for clearing Special task forces have also the arrears. been formed in certain banks at the Head Offices controlling offices with a view to expedite the reconciliation work.

Ex-Servicemen in Ordnance Factories

1725. SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ministry of Home Affairs and instructed ordnance Factories in May 1973 that all posts in ordnance Factories which can be held with advantage by exservicemen be indentified:
- (b) whether this was also emphasised during Liaison Officers Conference held in 1981 and 1982, if so, what action has been taken by Ordnance Factories in this regard;
- (c) whether Ordnance Factories have forecast their manpower requirement for selection of suitable ex-servicemen and their timely placement; and
- (d) what methodology has the Director General Resettlement in mind to discharge this onerous duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) In May 1979, Ministry of Home Affairs issued instructions to all Central Ministries and Departments of Government of India to identify posts which can be held with advantage by ex-servicemen by virtue of their military experience.

- (b) Yes, Sir. Some of the Ordnance Factories have already identified the posts. Instructions have been issued to others to complete speedily the process of identification.
- (c) At present 10 per cent Group 'C' vacancies and 20 per cent Group 'D' vacancies are reserved for ex-servicemen. per the existing instructions, the vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen in Groups 'C' and 'D' are to be notified to Zila Sainik Board/ Rajya Sainik Board/Directorate General Resettlement as well as to Employment Exchange, This is being done. Projection of their requirements is also made to these authorities as and when vacancies arise in these groups.
- (d) The Director General Resettlement would consolidate the requirements of the factories in consultation with the Ordnance Factories Board and would process the same in order to identify ex-servicemen meeting the qualitative requirements of jobs in time and earmark them for absorption in Ordnance Factories after obtaining their willingness in consultation with Raiva Zila Sainik Boards concerned.

Development and Improvement of Tourist Places in Rajasthan

1726, SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Government have formulated any scheme for development and improvement of places of tourist attraction in Rajasthan ;
- (b) if so, whether detailed information in this regard will be laid on the Table of the House; and
- (c) whether 'Keradu', an ancient architectural place of worship and pilgrimage in Barmer District will be selected for the development from the tourist point of view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM