

Defence assets available at the site.

- (ii) Ready availability of suitable land. Moreover, the purchase price including the development cost of the land will be comparatively less.
- (iii) Since the railway spurs and roads are already available, movement of materials in the actual erection of the factory can commence at a much earlier date than at a new site.
- (iv) Action on the initial phase of the project such as setting up of the facilities for training skilled craftsmen can be initiated without any undue delay due to the availability of temporary buildings.
- (v) Proximity to a sea port facilitates easy transportation of materials initially imported
- (vi) Proximity to a big town like Madras where a large proportion of staff and workmen can be expected to stay thus reducing expenditure on township for domestic accommodation.

(c) Information in this regard will be laid on the Table of the House after the date of publication of such information, which has been agreed by the two sides to the agreement as the understanding in respect of the contract.

Delhi Cantt. Employees

2829. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact there has been a demand from the Cantt. employees, that their status and position be brought at par with Army Civil Personnel; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India on that demand?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) The Cantonment Fund Employees demanded that they be treated as Central Government employees.

(b) This demand along with other demands of the All India Cantonment Fund Employees' Federation was referred to the National Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. The Tribunal rejected this demand and the Government has accepted their decision. However, the scales of pay and other benefits admissible to these employees have been substantially raised in accordance with the Award of the Tribunal.

Border Defence Committee

2830. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received report of the Border Defence Committee;

(b) if so, the main recommendation made by the Committee;

(c) the reaction of Government thereon; and

(d) whether Government have chalked out the programme for the implementation of the suggestions?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) to (d). It is Study Group (and not a Committee) appointed and functioning as part of the normal review necessary in such matters. The conclusions or recommendations of such a Study Group are considered by Government and where appropriate utilised. As their work and such reports as they make are confidential documents, it will not be in the public interest to disclose their recommendations on the floor of the House. In this connection, attention is invited to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4501 on 4th May, 1961.