

tourism in West Bengal by providing (i) a Mini bus at Jaldapara Wild Life Sanctuary ; (ii) a motor launch for the Sundarbans ; (iii) Trekking equipment at Darjeeling ; and (iv) Boats for Mirik Lake and Rabindra Sarobar.

Since 1978-79, India Tourism Development Corporation has incurred an amount of Rs. 85.64 lakhs on the Airport Hotel, Calcutta and its Transport Unit in Calcutta.

Study on Employment Problems in Public Sector Undertakings

6946. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has studied the employment problems of the people in public sector undertakings in the country and formulated the policy of appointment :

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the public sector units located in tribal and backward areas are required separate policy keeping the view on the purpose of their establishment in those areas ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S M. KRISHNA) : (a) and (b) The main features of the recruitment policy which has been evolved by the Government for the public enterprises are as follows :

(i) Appointments to Board level posts in public enterprises are made by the Government on the basis of the recommendation of the Public Enterprises Selection Board.

(ii) In the case of middle level and senior middle level executive cadres, appointments are made by the concerned public sector undertakings on All-India

basis, merit and qualifications being the principal criteria.

(iii) In the lower formations, recruitment was made through the employment exchanges if the post carried scale of pay, the maximum of which did not exceed Rs. 800/-per month. This limit has recently been raised to Rs. 1250/-for those enterprises where the pay scales have been revised since 1982 and which are following Industrial rate of Dearness Allowance.

In the case of unskilled workers, preference is given to the people coming through the local employment exchange where the project is situated. Persons displaced from the area acquired for the project or those belonging to SC/ST are given over-riding priority in the matter of employment.

This recruitment policy ensures that the public sector undertakings are permitted to run on commercial lines and at the same time satisfies the aspirations for employment opportunities of the local candidates i.e., the residents of the State in which the enterprises are located.

Import of Tractors and Heavy Vehicles from Austria

6948. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import tractors and heavy vehicles from Austria ;

(b) if so, the number of tractors and the number of heavy vehicles proposed to be imported from Austria ;

(c) the period by which such export proposal is expected to materialise ; and

(d) the estimated value of the above import bill ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) There is no proposal to import tractors and heavy vehicles as such from Austria.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Counting of Short Service Commission Period on Grant of Permanent Commission in Army

6950. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI :

SHRI ANWAR AHMAD :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the replies given to Unstarred Question No. 4056 on 16 December, 1983 and No. 3297 on 16 March, 1984 regarding counting of Short Service Commission period on grant of permanent commission in Army and state :

(a) whether there is any basic difference between Short Service Commission granted to engineering graduates and that granted to others ;

(b) whether S. S. C. granted to engineer graduates on joining training is not treated as S.S.C., if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether ante-date grant is independent of S.S.C. can it nullify already granted S.S.C. to deny its benefits in regard to total S.S.C. period, pay promotion, etc., if so, basis thereof ; and

(d) the reason why discrimination against engineering graduate alone ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Technical Graduates selected for Short Service Commission are entitled to the benefit of two years' ante-date seniority on grant of Short Service Commission because of their possessing technical qualifications : no such benefit is admissible to Short Service Commissioned

officers selected for Non-Technical streams.

(b) and (c) The Technical Graduates selected for Short Service Commission are granted "Short Service Commission on probation" during the training period to enable them to draw pay and allowances at the rates admissible to other 2/Lieutenants.

On grant of permanent Commission to such SSC Engineering graduates, their full pay commissioned service as Short Service Commissioned officers is counted for increments of pay and pension. However, for the purpose of seniority and promotion the period of short-fall in their training is deducted from their full pay Commissioned Service to protect the seniority of Technical Graduates joining as permanent Commissioned officers who undergo training for a period of one year instead of the 10 months undergone by SSC officers ;

(d) In view of (b) and (c) above, there is no discrimination against Engineering graduates.

Offices of Ashok Hotel Allowed Free Meals while on Duty

6951. SHRI K.A. RAJAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers in Ashok Hotel, Delhi, allowed meals while on duty with details of cost of each meals allowed ;

(b) whether the offices are entitled to take their guests/relatives for meals on payment ;

(c) if so, how much is charged for a meal served to guest/relative of the officer ;

(d) whether such facilities are provided to the workers also in the hotel ; and