

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir, only passenger operation with DC-3 and other bigger aircrafts has been transferred from Safdarjung airport to Palam with effect from 1st May, 1971.

(b) and (c). These questions do not arise at present.

Night Shelters to the Pavement Dwellers in Big Cities

2055. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding average dwelling space available per head in the Metropolitan cities like Madras, Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta;

(b) the number of pavement dwellers in the above cities according to the recent census; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide night shelters to the pavement dwellers in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No direct assessment has been made. However, indicative information in regard to housing conditions in terms of occupancy per house is available in the Census reports.

(b) The data collected during the 1971 Census is being analysed by the Census authorities.

(c) The Slum Clearance / Improvement Scheme introduced by the Ministry of Works and Housing in 1956 already provides for the construction of Night Shelters for the benefit of pavement dwellers, by the State Governments, Union Territories and local bodies.

Building of Submarines and Sophisticated Frigates in India

2056. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are working to build up submarines and sophisticated frigates in India itself;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether any foreign help will be sought in this regard; and

(d) if so, the name of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It will not be in public interest to disclose details in this regard.

Foreign Naval Bases in India Ocean

2057. SHRI BRIJ RAJ SINGH-KOTAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Asian Countries have spoken against the setting up of Russia's Naval Base in Indian Ocean;

(b) the names of those countries which have set up their Naval Bases in Indian Ocean; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The majority of the littoral States of the Indian Ocean are agreed that no outside powers should set up bases in the Indian Ocean area. The Government of India are not aware of and naval base set up by the USSR in the Indian Ocean.

(b) According to the information available with Government the Governments of the U. K., USA and France have naval bases in the Indian Ocean area.

(c) Since 1965 the Government of Indian has repeatedly deplored the UK and US Governments decision to set up a base in spite of our valid objections. We have also brought the Lusaka Declaration on this subject to the notice of the Governments of USA, USSR and UK.

Representation from Workers of Hal Koraput, Division Sonabeda, Orissa

2058. SHRI D. K. PANDA: Will be the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the workers of HAL Koraput Division, Sunabeda, Orissa gave a representation to the

Central Government in March, 1971 listing their grievances and demands;

(b) whether some MLAs of Orissa have also written to the Minister of Defence Production in April, 1971 in this regard requesting for appointment of an Enquiry Commission to probe into the caharges levelled by the workers against the Management;

(c) whether due to the inaction of the Government in regard to the above, the workers have since started agitation and hunger strike to get their grievances redressed;

(d) if so, what is the present situation there in this regard; and

(e) what steps Government have taken or proposed to take to mitigate the grievances of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). The Government has been keeping a watch on the situation. It is a fact that a relay hunger strike has been going on in Koraput Division since January, 1971. The individuals participating in the hunger strike are ex-Causal employees of the Division who are backed by the ex-President of the Employees' Association. The hunger strike is not supported by the workers of the Division or by the Hindustan Aeronautics Employees Association, which is the recognized Union. The situation in the Division is normal and the relationship between the Management and the recognised Union in the Division continues to be cordial.

Cases of Mass Anaemia in Districts of Kerala

2059. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that almost the entire population over a thousand living in the island of PAMPURUTH, Cannanore district, Kerala, is suffering from acute anaemia and other diseases connected with it;

(b) if so, whether the Centre has investigated about the case; and

(c) the steps Government intend to take

to save the people of the island from these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when received.

Views of North Vietnam Regarding Freedom Struggle in East Bengal

2060. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of North Vietnam made any statement either in support or in opposition of the freedom struggle in East Bengal;

(b) if not, whether Government drew the attention of the Government of North Vietnam to support the freedom struggle of East Bengal; and

(c) if so, the reaction of North Vietnam thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The Government of India are not aware of any such statement issued by the Government of Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

(b) and (c). The question of East Bengal has been discussed with the D. R. V. N. Government as with a number of other Governments through normal diplomatic channels. It is not customary to divulge such discussions.

Complaint Against Administration of Sainik School, Purulia in West Bengal

2061. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received regarding the administration of the Sainik School, Purulia, West Bengal;

(b) whether such complaints have been investigated and, if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether only about 20 per cent of the boys passing out from this School have joined the National Defence Academy; and