

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b). The agitation has been suspended. The Central Government continue to remain in close touch with the developments in Assam and continuous efforts are being made to find an amicable solution to the language controversy.

Award of Tamra Patras to I.N.A. men and Ratings who Participated in Naval Revolt of 1946

1371 SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the Indian National Army men and the Ratings who participated in Naval Revolt of 1946 have been given Tamra Patras so far; and

(b) if so, their number, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) so far as ex-INA personnel are concerned, the answer is in the affirmative. As for the Naval ratings who participated in the Naval Revolt, the information is being collected.

(b) The required information is being collected.

Additional Projects Sanctioned for certain Backward and Drought Affected Areas

1372. SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH
RAO:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently sanctioned some additional projects in certain backward and drought affected areas of the country;

(b) the names of the projects sanctioned and their location in the State of Haryana, and

(c) the extent of employment opportunities to be generated and funds allocated for the purpose,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The Planning Commission is not aware of any additional projects having been sanctioned recently in backward and drought affected areas.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Equipment Lying Unused in Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre at Thumba

1373. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of equipment costing lakhs of rupees is lying unused at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre at Thumba for the last several years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the action taken in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir. Some pieces of equipment such as lathes and electronics equipment are awaiting installation

(b) The delay in installation is due to the laboratory buildings not being completed. Construction of buildings in Thumba has been seriously delayed due to labour trouble faced by building contractors. In order to utilise the equipments early, temporary buildings are being put up, and accommodation taken on hire where possible. Despite the difficulties, equipment is being installed in available accommodation and put to maximum use.