

URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Development Authority has reported that Picnic Huts/Restaurants in the Ridge area at Mehrauli have been leased out. These Huts/Restaurants were constructed more than 10 years back for recreational purpose for public use and were lying non-operational due to lack of infrastructure to run the Huts/Restaurants. These have been allotted in public interest as people suffered for want of these recreational facilities and to avoid economic loss to the Delhi Development Authority.

Drinking Water Supply In Andhra Pradesh

288. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned Rs. 105 crore for drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof, District-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government are also agreed to provide assistance and help in making available drinking water; and

(d) if so, the total amount sanctioned by the Centre for providing drinking water in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Since, drinking water supply is a State subject, schemes sanctioned by the State Governments under their State plans, district-wise, are not being monitoring by the Central Government.

(c) Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) the Central Government provides assistance to the State Governments for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census on an equal sharing basis. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not sent any proposal under AUWSP Programme as there are no urban local bodies with population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census.

(d) Does not arise.

Airstrip Extension

289. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news report appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated April 27, 1998 under the caption 'IAF eyes Diu amid strong local outcry-airstrip extension may endanger buildings and rare forests'.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) After careful analysis of all factors relating to providing air defence to our economic and other assets located in the Bombay sector it is proposed to develop Diu airfield to locate air defence fighters and a surveillance unit.

The Government of Diu and Government of Gujarat have been requested for allotment of 18.65 hectares and 20 acres and 24 Guntas of land respectively for this purpose.

Expansion of Visakhapatnam Airport

290. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of Visakhapatnam airport as International Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) (a) No, Sir. Airports Authority of India has no such plans.

(c) Does not arise.

New Trains from Bihar

291. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to run some more trains from Patna to Delhi and Muzaffarpur to Delhi in view of heavy rush of passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Introduction of trains on Indian Railways including on Patna and Muzaffarpur-Delhi sectors is a continuous process subject to operational feasibility, resource availability and traffic justification.

Supply of Water

292. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Government Colonies in Delhi/ New Delhi, where the water supply is being maintained by CPWD;

(b) number of tube-wells installed in each of these colonies as on 31.10.97 and till now;

(c) the number of tube-wells functioning/out of order as on 31.10.97 alongwith dates since when they are out of order; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to get them repaired ?