

(d) the extent to which it is likely to help the future threats to India's security?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) A Strategic Policy Group (SPG) is one of the constituent units of recently established National Security Council. SPG is to undertake a Strategic Defence Review as one of its priority tasks.

(b) The SPG consists of Cabinet Secretary, Foreign Secretary, Home Secretary, Defence Secretary, Secretary (Defence Production), Finance Secretary, the three Service Chiefs, Secretary (Revenue), RBI Governor, Director (IB), Secretary (R) in Cabinet Secretariat, Secretary (DAE), SA to RM, Secretary (Space) and Chairman (JIC). Other invitees will be brought in as required. The SPG will provide the inter-ministerial co-ordination and backup for the National Security Council (NSC).

(c) SPG has been duly constituted for meeting as often as required.

(d) The formation of National Security Council and SPG will help meet future threats to India's security encompassing issues related to foreign policy, defence policy and internal security by visualising likely threats and dealing with them successfully in a co-ordinated manner.

Renovation of Amravati Railway Station

2436 SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a plan to renovate the Amravati railway station; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be renovated?

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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cases in Labour Courts

2437. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases disposed of through the labour courts and industrial tribunals separately during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government propose to constitute additional labour courts and industrial tribunals for the speedy disposal of pending cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to change the procedure for expeditious disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The number of cases disposed of by the Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts are as under:—

1.1.97 to 31.12.97	977
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1.1.98 to 31.10.98	724
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(b) and (c) There are 12 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts dealing with Industrial disputes. In addition, two more Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts have been sanctioned.

(d) The Presiding Officers are requested from time to time to dispose of cases quickly.

Cargo Complex at Nedumabassery

2438. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the courts have approved the issue of permission to Air India to operate the Air Traffic at Nedumabassery Airport coming up near Cochin;

(b) if so, whether several airlines have made proposals to operate through this airport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Kerala High Court has upheld the decision of Cochin International Airport Ltd. to award the contract for providing Ground Handling Services at Cochin Airport to Air India Ltd.