

[Translation]

**Interactive Voice Response System**

1945. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway stations have been provided with the facility of Interactive Voice Response System in the country, zone/State-wise; and

(b) the number of railway stations proposed to be covered under the new norms of IVRS in the country, zone/State-wise?

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) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Petition from Discharged Armymen**

1946. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any petitions from the discharged Armymen for compensation in the light of the judgement of Kerala High Court directing the Government to take decision in the matter; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) Most of the petitions have been disposed of and replies have been sent to the petitioners. None of the petitioners in question was found eligible for any compensation.

**Development of Jharsuguda Air Strips**

1947. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have got the proposal for development of Jharsuguda Air Strips in Western Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Employment in Railway Coach Factory, Bhopal**

1948. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the villagers whose land was acquired for setting up of a Railway Coach Factory in Bhopal were given an assurance that at least one person of their family would be given employment in the Coach Factory;

(b) if so, the number of applications received from villagers in this regard and the number of persons appointed so far;

(c) the number of existing posts in the said Railway Coach Factory and the number out of them which could be offered to the local villagers; and

(d) the time by which remaining applicants are likely to be given employment?

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) The extant instructions on the Railways provide for consideration for preferential employment of one member each of the families whose land has been acquired by the Railways for Railway Projects. Such dispensation is, however, restricted to the "first recruitment or the recruitments made during the first two years after acquisition of land", whichever is later. The preferential employment of land losers in the case of Coach Repair Workshop, Bhopal, is also governed by the said instructions.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Withdrawal of Case**

1949. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken any action to withdraw the case which was recorded during strike for the stoppage of 1017 and 1018 trains in Ranibennur (SR) (KARNATAKA);