

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c). Proposals from Indian Computer Manufacturing Industry for foreign collaboration and/or joint ventures received in the past have been considered and allowed on a case to case basis. In most of these cases the collaborations cover also high end systems like graphic work stations, superminies and mainframes. Mutual impact on each others' business will depend on factors like production efficiency, after sales service etc. At present, there is no pending proposal for joining venture from foreign computer firms.

(d) Government, after the announcement of the Computer Policy 1984 is following a liberal policy for the manufacture of computers. Under this policy, liberal imports of the design and drawings are allowed for the procurement of new technologies. Through fiscal measures, the Government is also providing adequate protection to the indigenous industry from imports, wherever necessary.

Red Fort

*251. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned 'Army should vacate Red Fort' appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 12 February, 1989 and giving inter alia the views of an eminent conservationist of the U.K.; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) and (b). A phased pro-

gramme to vacate a portion of the Red Fort occupied by the Army has been drawn up, for being implemented over a period of ten to fifteen years. The first two phases of the vacation programme have been completed and the area handed over to the Archaeological Survey of India. The remaining area, occupied by certain Army units, shall be vacated as soon as they can shift to alternate accommodation.

Fire at Sahar Airport, Bombay

*254. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether major fire broke out at Sahar Airport, Bombay on 9 February, 1989:

(b) if so, the causes of the fire:

(c) estimated loss of life and property due to fire;

(d) whether any inquiry has since been made in this regard; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). An inquiry committee has been set up by IAAI to go into the cause of the fire and other related aspects. The inquiry is in progress. There has been no loss of life due to the fire incident.

Hard Core Terrorists

*255. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: