

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Allotment of Staff side seats on National Council (JCM) to different Associations

*882. SHRI M.R. SAIKIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The criteria for allotment of Staff Side seats of National Council (JCM) to different associations of Central Govt. employees recognised for the purpose; and

(b) the composition of National Council (JCM) as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Staff Side on the National Council is represented by not more than 60 members nominated by recognised federations/unions in various Departments. The distribution of seats was agreed to and adopted by all participating federations/unions, associations when the JCM Scheme was put into operation in 1966 keeping in view broadly the numerical strength of eligible employees at that time.

(b) At present the Official Side consists of 25 senior officials of various Departments/Ministries and the Staff Side has 49 staff representatives. The Cabinet Secretary is the Chairman of the National council.

Visit of Tourists to J & K

*883. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-
WAJ:

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

(a) what steps have been taken to ensure that the tourist traffic to Kashmir Valley during the summer season remains unaffected due to recent disturbances in the valley;

(b) whether any publicity campaign abroad has been organised to increase the flow of foreign tourists;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any special facilities or concessions in tariffs are proposed to be provided to the tourists during this season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). With a view to assuring the prospective tourists that the Kashmir Valley is peaceful, the Central Department of tourism, in association with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and Air India, has taken a number of steps. These include sustained reassurance campaigns in the domestic markets, major campaigns in the overseas markets, special promotional seminars, sponsored visits of travel agents, tour operators and media to Kashmir, etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Setting up of a Robotics Research Laboratory at Mysore

*884. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Development Authority has allotted land for the setting up of a Robotics Research Laboratory at Mysore;

(b) if so, the total area of land asked for and actually allotted;

(c) when will the above Laboratory be