to be delivered progressively from 1985 to 1987.

(c) The existing capacity of the two airlines is being utilized to the optimum extent commensurate with desired level of schedule reliability, fleet size and operating pattern. It is, however, necessary to acquire more aircraft to meet the needs of the projected traffic growth in the coming years as well as for the replacement of the ageing aircraft.

Rules for Grant of Recognition to Service Unions/Associations

3333. SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recognition rules for grant of recognition to service unions associations have been framed;

(b) if not, the time by which these rules will be framed;

(c) the procedure that has been followed in granting recognition to service unions/associations which have been recognised so far; and

(d) the number of application for recognition of service unions/association pending with the Ministry together with their particulars and date of application ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) The Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1959 are at present treated as inoperative for certain reasons. Fresh recognition rules are being drafted in consultation with the staff side of the National Council of Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration.

(c) Pending finalisation of fresh recognition rules, de-facto or ad-hoc recognition to the service associations/unions is considered keeping in view the guidelines issued by this Ministry on the subject.

(d) Individual applications for recognition of service associations/unions representing the Government employees working in a particular Ministry/Department are considered by concerned Ministry/Department, Ministry of Personnel and Training, etc. being a policy making agency for recognition have no information in regard to the pendency of such applications in other Ministries.

So far as this Ministry is concerned, no such application is pending.

Vayudoot Service to Kutch and Ahmedabad

3334. SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether demands are being made from time to time by VIP, various organisations and Chamber of Commerce of Kutch, Ahmedabad and Bombay for the Vayudoot Service linking Kutch and Ahmedabad or Bombay, Kutch and Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(c) the time by which the said service is likely to be started;

(d) whether Government are aware that Ahmedabad is the capital of Gujarat, High Court is functioning there and is an industrial city, and the Kutch people have to visit Ahmedabad by railway route which is a long one;

(e) if so, whether Government propose to extend the existing Bombay-Kandla Vayudoot Service upto Ahmedabad; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (c) Requests have

been received from various sources in this behalf. Vayudoot is already operating a daily service between Kandla and Bombay with an Avro aircraft leased from Indian Airlines. Indian Airlines operates a daily service between Bombay and Bhuj via Jamnagar.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There is no proposal at present to extend the existing Bombay/Kandla service upto Ahmedabad.

(f) Does not arise.

Pollution of Yamuna

3335. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the constant source of pollution of the river Yamuna in Delhi both from eastern and western Banks;

(b) whether Government have any proposal for undertaking long term and short term measures to deal with the problem; and

(c) whether in view of the historic & religious importance of river Yamuna, Government propose to link the scheme with the Central Ganga River Authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BIR SEN) : (a) Yes Sir, the Government is aware that Yamuna is polluted in some stretches due to discharge of industrial and domestic effluents from cities located on its bank.

(b) Phased programmes have been undertaken for trapping of wastewater from the major drains and its diversion to the sewage treatment plants.

(c) No Sir.

Increase in Freedom Fighter's Pension

3336. PROF. M.R. HALDER :
SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI :
SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) total number of freedom fighters in India, who are getting pension facility;

(b) whether Government are thinking of raising the rate of pension for the freedom fighters;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to provide medical facilities to them as well ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) 1,32,859 freedom fighters and their dependents have been sanctioned pension upto 31.3 85.

(b) and (c) The Non-Official Advisory Committee set up at the Central level to consider the policy issues concerning the implementation of Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme in its meeting held on 21.7.84 recommended enhancement of pension upto Rs. 500/- p.m. Their recommendation is under the active consideration of the Government.

(d) On request from the Ministry of Home Affairs, most of the State Governments/Union Territory Admns, have made arrangements to provide free medical facilities to freedom fighters and their families.

Demand for Reduced Air Fare on Trivandrum-Gulf Sector

3337. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a demand by Indians living abroad for