

officers have filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court and have inter alia prayed for revision of their salaries and allowances. The matter is sub-judice.

Acquisition of Properties Under Section 296 of Income Tax Act

*352. SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that provision made in section 296 for acquisition of properties which was meant to curb the black money has failed to achieve the object due to defect in the provision of law; and

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of amending the law ; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, sir. It is not a fact that the provision made in Sections 269A to 269S (Section 296 incorrectly mentioned in the question) for acquisition of properties has failed to achieve the object due to defect in the provision of law.

(b) Does not arise. However, tax laws are periodically reviewed and should any change in the relevant provisions appear necessary, in the light of the experience of their actual working, the Government would sponsor appropriate amendments to the law.

Introduction of Airbus Service between Agartala and Calcutta

*355. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce airbus between Agartala and Calcutta after the completion of the new runway at Agartala Airport ;

(b) whether Government are aware about the heavy pressure of passengers at Agartala Airport ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are thinking to solve the problem ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indian Airlines operates one daily B-737 service and another F-27 service between Calcutta and Agartala. The capacity provided between Calcutta and Agartala is considered adequate to meet the existing traffic between these two stations. However, additional aircraft capacity can be inducted to operate extra flights flights, as and when necessary.

Recognition of Trade Unions

*356. SHRI BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that rules governing the recognition of trade Unions are no more in operation; and

(b) if so, what alternative arrangements have been made to provide requisite facilities to trade unions fulfilling the conditions of recognition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The rules governing recognition of Trade Unions continue to be in operation. However this Ministry had decided to keep the requests for recognition received in abeyance till the report of the Committee of the JCM becomes available. This was done to have a fresh look on the rules for recognition of Trade Unions framed in 1959.

Coverage of Villages by Nationalised Banks in Seventh Five Year Plan

*357. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to cover all the villages by nationalised banks in the Seventh Five Year Plan;