

as a means to curtail increase in expenditure on External Affairs which would have been otherwise of a larger magnitude.

- (iv) Proposals for opening of new Missions are implemented gradually, in the order of priority.
- (v) Powers of Heads of Missions to incur expenditure have been precisely defined.
- (vi) Some posts are being kept in abeyance or abolished.

Training Facilities for Kuwait Personnel

*26. Shri N. K. Sanghvi:
Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he offered to make available services of Indian Technicians and experts together with training facilities for Kuwait personnel in India during his recent visit to Kuwait; and

(b) if so, in what particular field the services of technicians have been offered?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No particular fields have been mentioned. Technicians will be provided in accordance with the requirements of Kuwait and depending upon their availability in India.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Kanpur

*27. Shri A. B. Vajpayee:
Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri Bharat Singh:
Shri Ranjit Singh:
Shri J. R. Singh:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:

Will the Minister of Defence be

pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary of Karamchhari Sangh, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Kanpur went on hunger strike some time ago at his Delhi residence to press the demands of the Karamchhari Sangh of H.A.L.;

(b) if so, what were their demands; and

(c) the action taken by Government to meet them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) No, Sir; persons who went on hunger strike were reported to be former employees of H.A.L. (Kanpur Division).

(b) That the cases of the dismissed employees of H.A.L. (Kanpur Division) should be re-considered.

(c) The Government find it difficult to intervene because:

(i) action taken by the management was after a proper enquiry;

(ii) on the facts of the case the punishment does not appear to be harsh or unjust;

(iii) the representation is against action taken by the management of H.A.L., a Public Sector Undertaking functioning under the Company Law.

Aid to Neighbouring Countries

*28. Shri S. R. Damani: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state the commitments which Government have made to grant foreign aid to the neighbouring countries during the last three years in the form of (i) technical know-how; (ii) financial assistance; and (iii) supply of capital goods?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.