

genous production of aircraft needed for defence purposes. The Government has also set up a Committee to review the entire field of aeronautics in India and to make suitable recommendations.

Emergency Commissioned Officers

*535. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Emergency Commissioned Officers who were to be demobilised and how many of them are engineers and how many were of the Medical Profession at the end of October, 1968 ;

(b) how many have been demobilised of each category and how many remain for demobilisation, categorywise ; and

(c) the shortage of engineers and Medical men on the regular side and how it is going to be filled up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). The figure of Emergency Commissioned Officers released up to the end of October 1968 is 3389. Of these, 6 were engineers and 341 medical officers. Since it is difficult to predict the performance of ECOs when being assessed for grant of Permanent Commissions, it is not possible to indicate future releases.

(c) The shortages are—

(i) Engineers and non- engineers in the technical corps of the Army	} 12½% (Sepa- rate figures for Engrs. are not avail- able)
(ii) Medical Officers in the Army Medical Corps. ...	

34%

A statement containing the measures being taken to fill up the shortages is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO FILL UP THE SHORTAGES OF ENGINEER AND DOCTORS

Engineers

(i) Grant of Permanent Commission to a larger number of engineering

graduates from the open market annually through the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun (200 per year as against 90 per year till now).

(ii) Introduction of a scheme for grant of 5 years S.S.C. (Technical) to engineering graduates from the open market through the Officers' Training School, Madras (about 350 per year). The first training course under this scheme is expected to start in October, 1969.

NOTE : The non-engineers in the Technical Corps who are already holding Permanent Commission or will be granted Permanent Commission hereafter will be brought to engineering degree standard by training on long degree engineering course at Army Training Establishments or by detailing them to selected civil colleges/institutions for completing degree engineering courses.

Doctors :

- (i) Grant of commission to stipendiaries from the Armed Forces Medical College, Poona.
- (ii) Grant of direct Permanent Commission to open market candidates.
- (iii) Secondment of State Government's Doctors to the Army Medical Corps.
- (iv) Selection of final year MBBS students for grant of SSC under the University Entry Scheme.

Indian Atomic Scientists

*536. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6258 on the 28th August, 1968 and state :

(a) the nature of steps taken by Government to highlight and appreciate the merits of the Indian atomic scientists who independently designed and built up the Plutonium Plant at Trombay ;

(b) whether this work of the Indian atomic scientists received international attention ; and