

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard ; and

(c) when the decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) to (c). Air-India has reserved two delivery positions for the Anglo-French Concorde. No decision has yet been taken on the purchase of the aircraft, and developments in this field are being watched.

Statehood for Himachal Pradesh

*432. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA :
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made on the assurance given by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs at the time of discussion in the 7th Session of Fourth Lok Sabha on the Private Member Resolution proposing Statehood for Himachal Pradesh ;

(b) whether any joint meeting was held with the representatives of Himachal Pradesh (including M. Ps.) and the Himachal Pradesh Government and if so, what was the result of such consultations, if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether the question of awarding Statehood to Himachal Pradesh is under active consideration of the Government and if so, when a decision is likely to be reached ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (c). A study of the financial position of Himachal Pradesh has been undertaken. After the study has been completed, it is proposed to discuss the question of financial viability of the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh with the representatives of Himachal Pradesh Government in the first instance. Until this is done, it will not be possible to say as to whether Himachal Pradesh is financial viable or not.

Muslim Majority District in Kerala

*433. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :
SHRI JAI SINGH :

SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Muslim majority District of Malappuram on the demand of the Kerala Muslim League has been formed ;

(b) whether it is a fact that those behind this move are the persons who in the past had pro-Pakistani feelings and had preached communal and separatist tendencies in the Indian politics ;

(c) whether it is also a fact with the opening of an airport at Kun dotti, 30 K. M. from Calicut, Pakistan will have easy contact by air and sea with muslim majority areas in the South ;

(d) whether the Central Government have drawn Kerala Chief Minister's attention to such dangers and the communal tension which is likely to increase, specially when it is against the resolution of the National Integration Council ; and

(e) if so, Kerala Chief Minister's reaction thereto and whether Government would lay the correspondence in this regard on the Table and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The state Government have intimated that the district of Malappuram has been formed purely on administrative considerations.

(c) Attention is invited to the answer to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 44, dated 19th February, 1969.

(d) The formation of districts is within the competence of state governments. No communication was addressed to the State Chief Minister in connection with the formation of Malappuram district.

(e) Does not arise.

दिल्ली में कालेजों की प्रथम व्यवस्था

*434. श्री सुरज मान :

श्री जगन्नाथ राव बोली :

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :

श्री वृज भूषण शाल :