Demand of basic Telecom companies for having holding companies

3047. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the successful bidder companies for the basic telecom services are demanding that they be allowed to have holding companies with foreign equity which can have stake in these bidder companies for the sake of having the financial arrangement to execute licences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under such arrangements, the foreign equity in the bidder company is likely to go beyond 50%; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir. No demand has been received from any successful bidder company for Basic Telecom services for permission to have holding companies with foreign equity.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

'One rank, one pension' scheme for ex-servicemen

3048. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the political parties in the Tenth Lok Sabha elections had promised "one rank, one pension" for ex-servicemen;

(b) the reasons for giving the old ex-servicemen "One time increase" in their pension, depriving them of the benefit of "one rank, one pension" scheme;

(c) whether Government propose to reconsider and implement this scheme in view of the growing discontentment among the ex-servicemen; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (d) Many political parties had favoured grant of One Rank One Pension to ex-Servicemen.

Ex-Servicemen demand for One Rank One Pension was examined by a High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC). The acceptance of the principle of One Rank One Pension was not found feasinble for a variety of reasons including its incompatibility with the principle that salary and pension are inherently related to the time at which service was rendered. In pursuance of the unanimous recommendations by the High Level Empowered Committee, a scheme for One Time Increase in Pension (OTI) to pre-1986 Armed Forces pensioners was sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.92. The OTI scheme has considerably narrowed down the disparity in pension between pre and post 1986 Armed forces pensioners.

At Present, there is no proposal to review the above decision. The Government have already appointed Fifth Central Pay Commission. The terms of reference to the Pay Commission inter-alia include examination of the existing pension structure and to suggest improvements in the pension and other retirement benefits of Central Government employees including the Armed Forces personnel.

विदेशों में उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों में प्रवेश हेतु कार्य कर रही बोगस ऐजेन्सियां

3049. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी. सोलंकी: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विदेशों में विशेष रूप से आस्ट्रेलिया, रूस और कजाकिस्तान में उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों में प्रवेश के लिए दिल्ली और अन्य राज्यों में काम कर रही फर्जी एजेन्सियों और दलालों का पता लगाया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या कार्रवाई की है अथवा करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में भारत सरकार और संबंधित देशों के बीच किसी समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए हैं?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल): (क) जी, नहीं। सरकार को इस बारे में कोई शिकायत नहीं मिली है कि विदेशों में उच्च शिक्षा के लिए दाखिला दिलवाने के नाम पर फर्जी एंजेसियां और बिचौलिए धोखाधड़ी कर रहे हैं।

तथापि, सरकार ने विदेशों में विशेषरूप से आस्ट्रेलिया, रूस और मध्य एशियाई गणतन्त्रों में प्रवेश को सुविधाजनक बनाने संबंधी निजी एंजेंसियों के विज्ञापन समाचार पत्रों में देखें हैं। ऐसे प्रवेशों को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए इनमें से कुछ का संबंधित संस्थाओं के साथ सीधा संबंध है। विशेष रूप से आस्ट्रेलिया भारत में अपनी उच्च शिक्षा का व्यवसाय चला आ रहा है और इस प्रकार की एंजेंसियों के लिए सेमीनार भी आयोजित किए हैं। इन सेमीनारों के आयोजन का उद्देश्य सहभागियों को प्रवेश कार्य-विधि तथा आस्ट्रेलिया के संबंध में अन्य सामान्य जानकारी देना था।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता। आस्ट्रेलिया के मामले में वीजा व्यवस्था इतनी कठोर है कि उन छात्रों ने जिनके प्रवेश वैध हैं दाखिले हांसिल करने लिए हैं उन्हें भी छात्र वीजा प्राप्त करने में कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ा।

(ग) भारत सरकार ने 17 नवम्बर, 1994 को उच्च शिक्षा के संबंध में एक करार रसियन स्टेट कमीटी के साथ सम्पन्न किया है जो रूस में मान्यता प्राप्त संस्थाओं में उच्च शिक्षा के लिए भारतीय छात्रों के प्रवेश और दुर्लभ मुद्रा में भुगतान करने पर उनकी संपूर्ण अध्ययन अवधि के लिए नियम और शर्तों की गारन्टी देता है। द एजूकेशन कंसलर्टेंट्स इन्डिया लिमिटेड को रूसी संस्थाओं में इंजीनियरिंग और अन्य तकनीकी पाठ्यक्रमों में भारतीय छात्रों के प्रवेश की व्यवस्था करने के लिए प्राधिकृत किया गया है। आस्ट्रेलिया और कजाकस्तान के साथ ऐसा कोई करार नहीं है।

Taking over Dutch Aircraft Manufacturer Fokker By HAL

3050. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) proposes to take over Dutch Aircraft Manufacturer Fokker;

(b) the broad benefits that are likely to accrure to the HAL as a result thereof; and

(c) the sources from which the HAL proposes to get necessary funds in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Narrow Sections on the National Highway Between Vijayawada and Talepalligudem

3051. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a number of narrow sections on the National Highway between Vijayawada and Talepalligudem in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that traffic jams are being caused by such ill designed culverts and roads in this sction; and

(c) the steps proposed to identify such narrow areas on the aforementioned National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) There is no narrow sections on National Highway 5 between Vijayawada and Talepalligudem in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Sardar Sarovar Project

3052. SHRIMAT ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of Sardar Sarovar Project has been stopped;

(b) whether the Suprem Court has given conditional stay and linked it with the rehabilitation of the displaced persons;

(c) whether it is a fact that Madhya Pradesh is not carrying out rehabilitation of the displaced persons according to the accepted award;

(d) the steps taken by Narmada Control Authority to insist to the Madhya Pradesh Government to carry out the rehabilitation on the basis of a time bound programme; and

(e) the number of persons going to be displaced and how many of them have been rehabilitated by Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh in the last year: State-wise?