

of Indians have been deported from UAE to India for overstaying or for staying without valid travel documents. The deportation has taken place by sea and by air. According to figures given by Dubai Authorities the number of Indian nationals who have been deported since the beginning of this year is as follows:—

S. No.	Month	Indian Nationals Deported
1.	January	962
2.	February	641
3.	March	733
4.	April	959
5.	May	899
6.	June	874

(b) and (c) Complaints have been received, from time to time, from victims of unscrupulous agents. As and when complaints are received against Recruiting Agents, these are enquired into with the help of Police and the concerned Indian Missions abroad depending upon the nature of complaints. Necessary action is also taken by Indian Missions abroad for redressal of the grievances of the Indian nationals by intervening with the local authorities on a case by case basis.

Improvement of National Highways in Karnataka

438. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for improvement of national highways in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details of such highways where the work is to be undertaken during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) Development of National Highways, including those in Karnataka, is a

continuous process. Besides, continuing works a large number of new road and bridge projects have been included for sanction in the current Plan in the State of Karnataka.

Facilities to civilians working in defence department

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

(a) whether the civilians working in the Defence Headquarters are a part and parcel of the Defence management and are paid salaries out of the defence Services Estimates;

(b) if so, the reasons for discriminating the civilians in the benefits enjoyed by the service personnel including canteen facilities after retirement; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove the discriminations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(d) The terms and conditions of service of Armed Forces personnel and those of civilians working in Defence Headquarters are entirely different.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

रक्षा बजट में वृद्धि

440. श्रीमती थालती शर्मा: क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 14 जून 1996 के "नवभारत टाइम्स" में "पाकिस्तान का रक्षा खर्च 16 अरब रुपये बढ़ेगा" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उपरोक्त तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार सामान्य बजट में रक्षा मंत्रालय के लिये बजटीय आवंटन की राशि में वृद्धि करेगी;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में अन्तिम निर्णय ले लिया गया है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?