

Memorandum against HAL

*177. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:
SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from some Members of Parliament and some designers of the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. regarding the functioning of HAL, especially its Chairman;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) It is not a fact that some Members of Parliament and some designers of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have submitted a Memorandum regarding the functioning of HAL, especially its Chairman.

2. However, one Member of Parliament, had in November, 1985, written to Raksha Rajya Mantri stating that the premature retirement of Shri A. K. Kundu, Additional Chief Designer (Aircraft), HAL, Bangalore was influenced by extraneous considerations and that he should be reinstated in service as the country needed such people. A photostat copy of a representation from some employees of the Design Complex of HAL addressed to the President of India with copies to Prime Minister and others, had also been received in December, 1985 requesting for continuance of Shri Kundu in HAL in view of his various achievements. The position in regard to the premature retirement of Shri Kundu is as follows:—

3. M/s. HAL have, in order to improve efficiency in the Organisation, introduced a scheme in January, 1976 for premature retirement of its em-

ployees who have attained the age of 50 years. A Screening Committee had met in May, 1985 to review the performance of the officers of Grades VII & VIII who had attained the age of 50 years. The Committee, after taking into consideration all facts and circumstances of the case, had concluded that Shri Kundu had ceased to be useful to the Company and, therefore, recommended his premature retirement. Shri Kundu was, accordingly, retired prematurely from service on 25th November, 1985.

4. Since the decision of premature retirement of Shri Kundu had been taken by the Company is exercise of their powers and in accordance with the Company's rules and procedures, the question of ordering re-instatement of Shri Kundu by the Government does not arise.

Pollution in Ganga

*178. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress made in the project to control pollution in the Ganga;

(b) whether any foreign collaboration has been made for this project and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the salient features of the project and the time schedule of its completion?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): (a) (i) A Works Programme for three States of U.P., Bihar and West Bengal at a national cost of Rs. 292.31 crores has been approved by the Central Ganga Authority.

(ii) As on 28th February, 1986 the three State Governments have submitted proposals for schemes estimated to cost of Rs. 187 crores.

(iii) Sixteen Schemes in nine towns in three States at an estimated cost of