

preference would be given to persons who are registered with Employment Exchanges. A representative of the State Government is also included as a member of the Selection Committee for lower and middle level posts.

In view of the instructions referred to above, local people are getting chances in posts carrying a salary of Rs. 500/-and below. As for posts at higher levels, it true that local people have to compete with candidates from other States, since for such posts the selection is made on an All-India basis and on merit of the competing candidates.

DEVELOPMENT OF AIR TRAFFIC IN ASSAM REGION

*490. SHRI N. C. BURGOHAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fact that there is a considerable increase in air traffic in Arunachal, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura and Assam region, Government propose to introduce additional air services in that region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH):

(a) and (b) Indian Airlines have increased the capacity covering the cities of Gauhati and Agartala which provide rallying points of traffic to the States in the region. The question of further augmenting services in the region is under review.

HONORARY RANK OF GENERAL OF ROYAL NEPAL ARMY TO INDIAN ARMY CHIEF

*491. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief of Army Staff, General Manekshaw has been conferred with the honorary rank of General of the Royal Nepal Army;

(b) whether previous to this also some Chiefs of Army Staff were conferred with the honorary rank of Generals of Royal Nepal Army;

(c) whether such rank to a Government Officer is conferred with the concurrence of the Government of India;

(d) the names of previous Generals of the Indian Army who were conferred with the honorary rank of General of Royal Nepal Army; and

(e) whether the Government of Nepal had ever sought the advice of these Generals on her defence matters ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Generals J. N. Chaudhari and P. P. Kumaramangalam.

(e) No, Sir.

D.A. AS PART OF PAY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*492. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the date since when dearness allowance is being treated as part of pay for the Central Government employees;

(b) whether this is applicable to the employees working in the University Grants Commission and the Central Universities also; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Central Government employees get leave with all allowances when they are sponsored for study or training abroad under the various foreign scholarship schemes; if so, the details of the allowances admissible in such cases, and if not; the reasons for not granting extra allowances during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) 1st December, 1968.

(b) The orders issued by Central Government treating part of dearness allowance as pay for certain purposes are applicable to Central Government employees and are not directly applicable to employees working in University Grants Commission and central Universities, which are autonomous bodies.

(c) Central Government employees sponsored by Government for training abroad under the various training schemes of the United Nations, Colombo Plan, etc., are treated as on duty and not as on leave. Those, who are selected for higher studies/training abroad under some of the foreign scholarships schemes are granted special leave on half average pay, and during such leave in addition to leave salary, they are entitled to dearness allowance at the appropriate rates.

† LOCK OUT AT AVADI-TANK FACTORY

*432. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

† [Transferred from the 25th May, 1972]