

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) A section of people at Jaitapur and surrounding areas has been opposing setting up of the project.

(b) The nuclear reactors planned to be set up at Jaitapur are the Evolutionary Pressurised Water Reactors (EPRs). The EPR design has been based on the proven design, safety principles and manufacturing technologies employed in "N4" reactors in France and "KONVOI" reactors in operation in Germany. These are under successful and safe operation for the last many years. The EPRs planned at Jaitapur incorporate the operational feedback from "N4" and "KONVOI" reactors. Currently, EPRs are under construction in Finland, France and China. These will be operational in 2 to 4 years. The operational experience from these reactors will also be available before the commissioning of Jaitapur nuclear power project. Discussions between NPCIL and AREVA are at an advanced stage to arrive at a viable tariff regime, comparable to that of other electricity generating plants in the region.

(c) The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) deputed an expert Committee for assessing the technology and safety aspects of EPRs. The Committee carefully examined these issues and visited the plants under construction in Finland and France. The Committee also had discussions with regulatory authorities in Finland and France. The Committee's report has clarified all doubts regarding safety and efficiency of the EPRs.

Remuneration of Anganwadi workers

*43. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Anganwadi workers have sought enhancement of their remuneration to ensure minimum wages for skilled and semi-skilled work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) have been demanding enhancement of their remuneration and minimum wages.

ICDS Scheme envisages the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Helpers (AWHs) as "honorary workers" from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part-time basis, in the area of child care and development. They are paid a fixed honorarium per month as decided by the Government from time to time. Since AWWs/AWHs are honorary workers, minimum wages are not applicable to them.

The honoraria of AWWs has been enhanced by Rs. 1500/- on the last honorarium drawn by

them and that of AWHs and Workers of Mini-AWCs by Rs.750/- per month w.e.f. 1.4.2011. The States/UTs also provide additional honoraria to AWWs/AWHs from their own resources. The periodicity of increase of honorarium has been in the range of 5-8 years except in 1978 and 2011 which was increased after 3 years.

Besides, payment of honorarium, AWWs/AWHs are also granted various other benefits such as Paid Absence on Maternity of 180 days, Insurance cover under Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana (AKBY), reservation of 25% of vacant posts of Supervisors for AWWs, recruitment of 25% of AWWs from amongst AWHs, provision of uniform, awards etc.

Phasing out of foreign pilots

***44. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing acute shortage of qualified and experienced pilots;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government had taken a decision to phase out foreign pilots;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government, at the instance of the airlines, extended the deadline to phase out foreign pilots; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Due to growth of air traffic and induction of new types of aircraft, the industry is facing shortage of type rated pilots especially in the Commander categories. This shortage is also met by appointing foreign pilots on Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation (FATA).

(b) to (e) To cover the shortage of type rated pilots and commanders, Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation (FATA) policy was reviewed by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and *vide* order dated 06.12.2010; Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization Policy has been extended up to 31st December 2013 on case to case basis. As a follow up, cases of Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation (FATA) pilots are processed on the basis of information furnished by each airline regarding simultaneous training of their Indian pilots and phase out programme of Expat pilots.

Survey to identify critical airports

***45. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: