

(c) The question of sanctioning of less central assistance to Bihar, therefore, does not arise.

Alleged Bungling in funds of the Films and Photo Division of Armed Forces

992. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI:
SHRI YADVENDRA DATT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of bungling in the funds of the Films and Photo Division of Armed Forces have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted an inquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken in this regard. and

(d) if no inquiry has been conducted, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) A few anonymous complaint of general nature were received in the past. On the basis of the preliminary inquiries conducted, no specific case of bungling of funds, in the Armed Forces Film & Photo Division has however come to the notice of the Government.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Help to Promising Sportsmen

993. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is continuously lagging behind in sports as compared to other countries; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to help, encourage and look after the promising sportsmen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). There have been instances where the performances of our sportspersons have been below expectations. However, in several other areas Indian sportspersons are showing creditable achievements, as in the case of the Commonwealth Games 1990, where they won 32 medals which is the highest tally since the inception of the Games; and the 4th South Asian Federation Games held in October '89 at Islamabad where Indian contingent won the highest number of modals.

In order to encourage and look after the promising sportspersons, Government is providing training and coaching facilities for them at the Centres of Sports Authority of India both under the supervision of Indian and foreign coaches and with appropriate support of Sports Science Experts. These sportspersons are also being provided with world standard equipment and nutritious diet. Those who achieve excellence in international events, are being honoured with special cash awards, and the best ones are also being honoured with the prestigious Arjuna Award.

Joint Space Explorations

994. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of India's joint space explorations during the last five years; and

(b) when and from where the next INSAT will be launched?