

[Translation]

Constitution of Sub-Committee

1392. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee has been constituted by the Government to enquire into the cause of accidents of fighter planes;

(b) if so, the tenure of the Committee and the reasons for constituting such a committee even after constituting various enquiry committees; and

(c) the time by which this committee is likely to submit its report?

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

(b) and (c) The Committee is to identify the causes for aircraft accidents and prepare a comprehensive action plan to minimise such losses. The Committee is to submit its report to the Government at the earliest.

[English]

Vizhinjam High Navika Commandant

1393. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to include Vizhinjam Trivandrum, Kerala in costal Air Command;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the details of the projects included in this command so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Not applicable.

MERI, Calcutta as Deemed University

1394. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to declare Marine Engineering Research Institute (MERI), Calcutta as a deemed University; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be declared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian Team for Water Sports

1395. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare and equip the Indian team for water sports such as canoeing, kayaking and rowing in the light of the 1998 Asian Games to be held at Jakarta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Sending any team/sports persons to the Asian Games or any International competitive event depends on the qualifying standards, the performance shown, and the likely prospects. The Government propose to prepare and equip the Indian team for water sports for the 1998 Asian Games, which are to be held in Bangkok, and not in Jakarta as mentioned in the Question.

For preparing the Rowing team Government and Sports Authority of India held discussions with Rowing Federation of India on 16.1.97 in which the coaching and competition programme was discussed and finalised. The process to finalise the probables for 1998 Asian Games is on.

Regarding Canoeing & Kayaking, the Indian Kayaking and Canoeing Association was asked to furnish the details of coaching & competition programme for 1998 Asian Games, which is awaited.

Legislation for Sports

1396. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to enact a central legislation to ensure implementation and development in the field of sports; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the features of the New National Sports Policy?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The views of various State/UT Governments, National Sports Federations and other concerned organisations have been invited on the proposal relating to the transfer of the subject 'Sports' to the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India. At present, no decision has been taken to enact a central legislation for the development of sports and games in the country.

(b) The draft New National Sports Policy attempts to reformulate the existing policy in more concrete terms spelling out the specific measures required to be taken by the various concerned agencies involved in the promotion of sports and games in the country. Its main features are as under:-

- (1) Broad-basing of Sports;
- (2) Creation of sports Infrastructure;
- (3) Mobilisation of mass media in introducing a sports culture in the country;
- (4) Achieving excellence at the National and International levels;