

[*Translation*]

Facilities to Handicapped

5782. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKER RAWAT: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to give financial assistance to the handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) the details of the provision for reservation for handicapped persons in Central Government Services;

(e) whether these provisions are being fully compelled with; and

(f) if not, the steps Government propose to take to ensure compliance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). Financial assistances is provided by the Union Government for the Welfare of the Handicapped under various schemes like scheme of assistance to the voluntary organisations for the welfare of disabled persons, scheme of assistance to disabled persons for purchase of equipment of aids/appliances, scheme of scholarships to disabled students, petrol/diesel subsidy to the disabled etc.

(d) to (f). Three per cent of the vacancies have been reserved for physically handicapped-1% each for the visual, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in Group 'C' and 'D' civil posts under the Central Government. Special Recruitment Drives were carried out during 1987, 1988 and 1990 to fill up the backlog of reserved vacancies for the visually handicapped and herding handicapped in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in

Ministries/Departments, Public sector Undertakings and Banks, etc. The process of filling up of these posts of continuing.

Killing by Militants

5783. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKER RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3992 on December 16, 1991 regarding killing by Militants and state:

(a) whether the information in regard to part (c) of the question has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Punjab have informed that 512 militants were released during the period and in J & K 324 persons were released under 169 RPC.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

ITBP Personal Trapped in Glacier

5784. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain ITBP personnel were trapped in glacier near Uttarkashi while performing their duty on February, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of personnel saved and untraced separately; and

(d) the efforts being made to recover the untraced persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No ITBP personnel were trapped in glacier in February, 92 near Uttarkashi. However, 3 ITBP personnel were trapped in glacier on 6.2.1992 near Bhapkund about 36 KMs from Tapovan in district Chamoli (UP).

(b) The following three personnel were trapped in the glacier:

1. Coy. Commander V.P.S. Tyagi
2. Constable Sukhdev Dobhal
3. Constable Satish Kumar

(c) While the dead body of Constable Sukhdev Dobhal was recovered and was cremated with full honours on 4.3.1992, Sarvashri V.P.S. Tyagi and Satish Kumar are still untraced.

(d) All out efforts are being made to recover the untraced persons for which rescue parties specialising in the job are engaged for digging and probing the complete area from the data of accident and rescue & search operation is still in progress. The Government of UP have also been requested to advise concerned Departments to keep watch over the movement of dead bodies in the river.

Bio-Control Plant

5785 DR. C. SIVELRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's first bio-control plant has been commissioned in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the plant was set-up after extensive researches;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up a similar plant in Mizoram; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Two pilot plants for the commercial production of bio-control agents have been commissioned in Tamil Nadu one each at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and at Agriculture College and Research Institute, Madurai. The plants have a capacity to produce six different types of Bio-control agents to cover 20000 hectares of field crops per year.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Bio-control agents identified for mass production are those which have already shown control potential under field trials by the All India Coordinated Research Project on Biological Control of Crop Pests and Weeds, of Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(e) No, Sir.

(f). Question does not arise.