

**Concentration of Pakistani Troops
Across Borders**

*60. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Military activities of Pakistan along the line of actual control as reported in National Herald, dated June 10, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether incidents of firing along border areas have become a regular feature;

(d) if so, the number of firing incidents that took place on Indo-Pak border during the last three months, sector-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). Government have seen the story Published in the National Herald of 10th June 1992. We have no reports of unusual military activities by Pakistan along the Line of Control.

(c) and (d). Incidents of exchange of firing between the troops/security forces on the two sides along the Line of control in J&K are, by and large, a regular feature. Some incidents of firing have also occurred along the IB in Punjab.

(e) With a view to reducing tension and preventing escalation, the Directors General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan maintain weekly telephonic contact with each other. Meetings of Sector Commanders also take place, as and when required, with

a view to resolving issues potential of causing tension.

**Project Profiles of SIDBI in Respect of
Andhra Pradesh**

403. SHRI. SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development bank of India (SIDBI) has prepared project profiles to help the rural people to take up the rural industries in a big way which will also help in generating employment in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the plans of SIDBI in the near future in respect of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). In response to the needs of the SSI sector, including rural industries, and with a view to promoting rural industrialisation and creation of self-employment opportunities for the rural youth, SIDBI took upon itself the task of compiling a compendium tiny sector project profiles. Looking to the broad homogeneity in markets and resources, profiles on projects suitable for a region as a whole, rather than for individual States, are being compiled. The first such publication covering the north-Eastern Region has been released recently. These profiles can also be used by entrepreneurs in Andhra Pradesh subject to local conditions, viability and feasibility considerations. These profiles are in addition to the 75 profiles that were prepared by APITCO in 1989-90 and about 150 other project profiles prepared by APSFC, which are also available for use by the entrepreneurs in Andhra Pradesh.

The National Institute for Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, has been

approached by SIDBI to prepare some profiles for tiny sector projects suitable for rural locations.

Coffee Plantation in Orissa

404. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the climatic conditions in some of the areas in Orissa are suitable for coffee plantation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total areas of land acquired by the Government for the purpose;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the people whose land has been acquired; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b): The Coffee Board has identified 6335 ha. falling in the Koraput, Kalahandi, Ganjam and Phulbani Districts of Orissa as suitable for coffee growing. The Government has not acquired any land for the purpose.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Security of Letter of Credit of Indian Companies

405. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to start fresh security of letters of credit opened in favour of Indian Companies dealing in Rupee Payment Areas (RPA);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the period for which the letters of credit are valid;

(d) whether the exporters are against such scrutiny; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir,

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Gold Bank

406. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to set up a Gold Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). A proposal to establish a Gold Bank for issuing Gold bonds is under active consideration of the Government. The objective is to mobilise gold from the people, enhance the Gold bonds is under active consideration of the Government. The objective is to mobilise gold reserve and partly may utilise this for raising foreign currency loans to finance developmental programmes. The commercial viability, modalities and other details are under detailed examination of Government in consultation with RBI.