

(e) what other steps are proposed to encourage handicapped people to join Government service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Since the appointments to posts under Government are made on a decentralised basis by the concerned Ministries/Departments, the information regarding the number of physically handicapped candidates appointment to various posts is not Centrally maintained at present.

(e) Relaxation in age, fee concession and application of relaxed standard are extended to physically handicapped candidates while filling the posts reserved for them. Age relaxation is also given to physically handicapped persons for appointment to posts filled otherwise than through open competitive examinations.

Ban on Private Practice

1429. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the J&K Government had imposed a ban on private practice by Government Doctors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are taking a serious view to this situation in which the Government doctors exploit patients and public by threatening them everywhere other than the hospitals where they are working;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this matter; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken to curb this practice and save the public from such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b). As per information from Commissioner(Health), J&K, the ban on private practice has been imposed for all Government Doctors, and in lieu of that, they will be paid Non-practising allowance.

(c) to (e). No such complaint has been received in this Ministry so far. However, health being a State subject, such matters are dealt with by the concerned State Governments.

Setting up of EOUs in Software and Floriculture

1430. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee on foreign investment has cleared the proposals for setting up 100% export oriented units in the areas of software, floriculture, shrimp culture and other sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expected foreign exchange earning and exports in tonnage term during a year by setting up these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b). The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has cleared 433 proposals for setting up 100% Export Oriented Units envisaging foreign and NRI equity participation of Rs.3430.74 crores upto 30.6.1995. The areas covered are computer software, floriculture, textiles, ready-made garments, steel etc.

(c) The expected foreign exchange earnings aggregate to Rs.95,721.88 crores during five years of operation. Statistics about exports in tonnage terms is not maintained due to different units of production being adopted by the entrepreneurs for various industries.

[Translation]

Blind Persons

1431. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blinds in the country;

(b) the number eye banks collecting cornea and the number of cornea they collect daily in the country;

(c) the number of persons restored sight every year with the help of cornea so collected in the country;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme

for getting cornea available in large number in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) On the basis of a Survey conducted in 1989, it is estimated there are more than 1.2 crores blind persons in the country.

(b) and (c). About 166 Eye Banks are functioning in the country and 12,225 corneas were collected by these Banks during the year 1993. The data regarding daily collection of corneas in the country are not available. About 8,400 corneal transplantation operations are performed every year in the country.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), one time non-recurring assistance of Rs. 1.75 lakhs and recurring assistance of Rs.0.25 lakh is admissible for the development and maintenance of Eye Banks in the Voluntary Sector. Since 1986, a National Fortnight on Eye Donations is being observed every year from 25th August to 8th September to generate awareness about Eye Donations. Five new Eye Banks are proposed to be set up under the Programme during the current financial year.

[English]

'Operation Golden Bird'

1432. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army launched 'Operation Golden Bird' to effectively curb, contain and check militancy and secessionism in the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of success achieved in the operation, State-wise; and

(c) in addition to this further steps taken to effectively curb militancy and secessionism in the North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b). The Army launched operation in Mizoram against armed militant gang infiltrating from Bangladesh along the Indo-Myanmar border. The gang was successfully intercepted. The Myanmar army also undertook operation within

Myanmar territory. In these operations the following casualties were inflicted on the gang:-

I)	Militants killed	-	58
II)	Militants apprehended	-	43
III)	Militants surrendered	-	12
IV)	Weapons recovered	-	84
V)	Ammunition recovered	-	11000
			rounds approximately.

Large number of militants were forced to abort the infiltration attempt.

(c) Counter insurgency operations in some of the North Eastern States have been intensified with effect from May, 1995.

Coastal Patrolling

1433. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal from Maharashtra Government for reimbursement of the total expenditure incurred for coastal patrolling to prevent and check smuggling of explosives into coastal areas of the State:

(b) if so, the details thereof including total expenditure incurred so far by the State;

(c) the amount so far reimbursed and the balance to be reimbursed; and

(d) the time by which the balance amount is expected to be reimbursed and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government of Maharashtra had sent a request in August, 1994 for re-imbusement of Rs.4.74 crores incurred in connection with Coastal Surveillance Scheme for the years 1993-94 and 1994-95. The entire amount of Rs.4.74 crores has been reimbursed by the Government of India in March, 1995. Presently, no claim of