

(b) the details of assistance sought by Orissa in the past three years for the purpose; and

(c) whether any interactive computer requested for by the State is proposed to be provided by the Centre?

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). The extent to which the State are being assisted in the matter of rapid image processing/remote sensing applications are:

- Providing technical guidance and support towards infrastructural build-up.
- Identification of manpower requirements.
- Association of State Remote Sensing Centres in various nationally relevant projects for natural resources.
- Providing some financial assistance as "seed money" for the setting up of State Remote Sensing Centre subject to a matching contribution by the State Governments.

(b) During the last three-year period, Orissa State Remote Sensing Centre has sought assistance from Department of Space (DOS) for procurement of a suitable image processing system.

(c) DOS has provided financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 20.00 lakhs to the Orissa State Remote Sensing Centre for the procurement of an interactive computer system for image processing.

Pak Concentration on Borders

1097. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur):
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
SHRIMATI CHENNUPATI
VIDYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent press report about concentration and mass movements of Pakistani troops across the Western borders, especially borders of J&K, Punjab, Rajasthan and Kutch;

(b) if so, what is the Government's independent assessment in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet any eventuality of aggression or other onslaught?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Government have seen media reports in this regard.

(b) and (c). A close watch is kept on all developments having a bearing on our national security and appropriate measures are taken as necessary to ensure full defence preparedness.

Objectives and Priorities in Eighth Plan

1098. SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are laying greater emphasis on agriculture, rural devel-