

attacked Indian fishing vessels on the East Coast recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that intemperate activities of the Coast Guard, vis-a-vis Indian fishing vessels were brought to the notice of Government earlier;

(c) if so, what were the reasons for the inability of the coast Guard authorities to prevent such illegal activities;

(d) whether any action has been taken against the officers responsible for the culpable crew; and

(e) the details of measures being taken to give better training and enforcement of discipline amongst Coast Guard personnel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) The Board of Enquiry instituted to investigate and fix responsibility in the incident involving firing by the Coast Guard ship 'Ramadevi' on an Indian fishing trawler on 15-2-1986, off Paradip, has concluded that the use of fire arms had to be resorted to by the Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Ship because the fishing trawler had disregarded requests to stop and permit inspections. The firing was intended to be of warning shots reinforcing the requests to stop. Lack of proper appreciation of the situation on the part of the C.O. of the Coast Guard Ship, and lack of alacrity and awareness on the part of the Indian fishing trawler in responding to the call of the Coast Guard Ship, were factors contributory to the incident. For his error of judgement, it is proposed to 'Censure' the Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Ship 'Ramadevi'.

(b) No, sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) The Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Ship involved in the firing incident is proposed to be 'Censured'.

(e) (i) Detailed guidelines for inspection of fishing vessels and graduated use of force and fire arms by Coast Guard vessels are being issued.

(ii) Periodical meetings between Coast Guard authorities and Indian

Fishermen Association will be held to discuss aspects of mutual interest to avoid recurrence of such incidents. One such meeting has already been held on 20-3-1986 at Vishakhapatnam.

#### Use of Hindi for Conversation with Foreign Officials

7344. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any communication has been sent to different Ministries and Departments of Union Government to use Hindi in their conversations with their foreign counterparts;

(b) whether any provision of interpretation facilities has been made in the countries where there are interpreters having working knowledge of Hindi;

(c) if so, whether the same provision can be made for other languages in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons for showing favourable attitude towards Hindi only ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the Ministry of External Affairs Indian-based Interpreters in Indian Missions are normally required to translate from English into local language and vice-versa. However, interpretation facilities in Hindi can be provided if required. Sure Hindi and English are the official language of the Central Government interpretation facilities in other Indian language are not required.

#### Fire in Ashok Vihar, Delhi

7345. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons killed and injured so far in the devastating fire in Ashok Vihar, Delhi in February, 1986;

(b) the causes of this fire and names of the persons found responsible therefor; and

(c) whether Government have completed the enquiry into this incident and if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) In this incident, 26 persons were reported killed and 90 persons were reported injured.

(b) The real cause of the fire is still not known. A case under Section 336/338, 304-A IPC has been registered at Police Station, Ashok Vihar and is under investigation. 5 persons were arrested in this connection whose names are (i) J.N. Malik, (ii) Binu Rai, (iii) Ram Tirath, (iv) Arun and (v) Matru Mal. The case continues to be under investigation.

(c) A magisterial enquiry was ordered in the case with the following terms of reference :

- (i) To ascertain the causes leading to the fire incident;
- (ii) The extent of loss to lives and injuries to persons.
- (iii) To ascertain the adequacy of fire fighting and rescue measures as well as medical relief afforded to the victims.
- (iv) To examine whether the use of inflammable substances like synthetic materials should be permitted for the construction of pandals/shamianas erected during the public and private functions.
- (v) To ascertain the inadequacies of the existing regulatory mechanism and suggest amendments for ensuring adequate fire safety measures in the construction of such pandals/shamianas such as proper design of shamianas, provision of adequate exit points etc and

(vi) To suggest any other remedial measures so that such incidents do not recur in future.

The magistrate has submitted his report and is under consideration of Delhi Administration.

#### Common Recruitment Rules in various Departments/Directorates of the Ministry

7346. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recruitment rules for 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' posts in various Departments/Directorates etc. of his Ministry are common;

(b) whether cadre structure/promotional avenues for same categories of workers e.g. storekeepers in different departments under his Ministry differ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The cadre structure/promotional avenues for the various categories of staff, including Storekeepers in the different establishments under the Ministry of Defence, depend upon the functional requirements of each establishment. No remedial measures are, therefore, required to be taken. However, the various cadres are reviewed from time to time to introduce changes, as necessary.

#### US Efforts to get Naval base in Sri Lanka

7347. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that USA is