

BSF Personnel

6088. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of retired BSF personnel are in Karnataka;

(b) whether Karnataka Government had declared retired BSF personnel as ex-serviceman;

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has approached the Centre to get some help for them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) BSF do not maintain the record of retirees residing in different states.

(b) To the extend information is available, Karnataka Govt. have not declared retired BSF personnel as ex-servicemen.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Janswasthya Rakshak Yojana

6089. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Janswasthya Rakshak Yojana" appearing in 'Amar Ujala, Agra';

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Public Health workers working in rural areas are paid meagre salaries;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to enhance their pay and allowances of these workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The news item in Amar Ujala dated 14.3.98 published from Agra has been brought to the Government's notice. According to this news item, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had spoken in Rajya Sabha about strengthening the Village Health Guide Scheme for providing improved health and family welfare services in rural areas.

(c) to (e) Under the Village Health Guide Scheme, a Village Health Guide who serves the

community on voluntary basis, is paid a honorarium of Rs. 50/- per month. The Scheme is presently being reviewed by an Expert Committee which is looking into various aspects of the Scheme. On receipt of the Committee's Report the Govt. will examine the same and take appropriate steps.

[English]

Foreign Fund

6090. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) names of individual and organisations who are indulging in secessionist and anti-Indian activities getting foreign funds;

(b) the number of cases registered in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) the number of persons arrested and prosecuted in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) There have been reports of various secessionist leaders and organisations in Jammu & Kashmir having received large sums of money from diverse channels and sources in contravention of law. CBI has registered three cases under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 and all these cases are under investigation. J&K Police have also registered 5 cases relating to funding of militancy through international sources in which 7 persons were arrested.

Amendment to Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act

6091. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to amend Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which amending bill on the contract labour is like to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the light of experience gained in the administration of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 over the years and judicial pronouncements coupled with economic liberalisation, a need has arisen to amend the Act.

(c) As the proposal is in consultation stage, the time by which the Bill is likely to be introduced cannot be indicated.