

(c) and (d) Various safety measures viz. implementation of recommendations emanating from investigations of various accidents, monitoring of Flight Data recorders, dissemination of Safety Information, Surveillance by Flight Inspectors, periodic inspection of Aerodromes, Safety Audit of Operators, periodic spot checks etc. are taken on continuous basis to avoid accidents.

#### **Crash of Army Helicopter near Simla**

899. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Army Helicopter crashed at Sagni village in Kinnaur District (Simla) on October 19, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of loss of lives and property suffered therefrom; and

(d) the details of the inquiry conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two Cheetah Helicopters had taken off from Village KARCHAM on the 19th October, 1998 at about 0945 hours on a mercy mission of dropping food and other essentials to a stranded Long Range Patrol in the area. After about 10 to 20 minutes of the take-off, one helicopter crashed, fatally. Eye witness from the nearby village has stated that the helicopter was seen rotating and coming down, until it hit a rope-way, strung across the valley.

(c) Both the pilots lost their lives in the accident and the helicopter was destroyed. There was no loss to civilian life or property.

(d) The Court of Inquiry (COI) is in progress.

#### **GSI's Programme to generate more Foreign Exchange**

900. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANJIPURE :  
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India propose to launch a programme aimed at generating more foreign exchange by providing its service to multinational corporations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of multinationals so far provided such service;

(d) the total amount of foreign exchange earned by providing this service;

(e) whether GSI is planning to expand this service to more multinational companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) There is no specific programme of Geological Survey of India (GSI) for generating foreign exchange through its services to Multinational Corporations (M.N.C.s). However, GSI earns in Indian currency from MNCs by way of providing field services and customised data packages etc.

(b) to (f) Question does not arise.

#### **GSI Survey**

901. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India propose to conduct any survey in various States, particularly in U.P.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A total of 241 surveys are to be conducted by Geological Survey of India (GSI) during the Field Season 1998-99 in various States. In the State of Uttar Pradesh 19 surveys are proposed. State-wise details are furnished in the attached Statement.