

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3252
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004
STAMPEDE DURING RECRUITMENT IN BIHAR
Rao Shri Devarakonda Vittal

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some students were injured in a stampede during an Army recruitment drive in Ara, Bihar in June, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): An Army recruitment rally was planned at Ara, Bihar from 13th June to 15th June 2004. The rally was to be conducted in a stadium at Ara and scheduled to commence at 0500 hrs. On the morning of 13th June, 2004 at about 0430 hrs, there was heavy rush and some candidates tried to gate crash into the stadium and fell down in the restricted passage at the gate and were stamped over by the candidates following behind, resulting in minor injuries to some candidates, two of whom were evacuated to the Patna Medical College & Hospital at Patna. The police force brought the situation under control.

(c) The rally is planned in a manner that each day is allocated to candidates of a separate district/tehsil to reduce rush of candidates and enable better crowd management. Liaison is maintained with the State Government to ensure adequate police force for maintaining law and order including crowd control.