

Laws on certain subjects relating to SCs/STs dealt with by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Under Section 6 of the constitution (65th Amendment) Act, 1990, the Reports of Commission alongwith Action Taken Memorandum are to be laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament.

The National Commission for SCs/STs has so far submitted 4 Reports and a Special Report to the Government. First, Second and a Special report of the Commission have already been laid on the table of both Houses alongwith Action Taken Memoranda. The process of preparing Action Taken Memorandum on the recommendations of Commission in its Third and Fourth Report is going on and as soon as the process is complete the Action Taken Memorandum will be laid on the table of both Houses.

[English]

North-Eastern States

435. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present status of the Central agencies concerning the promotion of agriculture, trade and industries with their financial involvement to each of the North-Eastern States, including Sikkim;

(b) the scheme-wise financial programmes formulated for each State by the Central agencies during 1998-99; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

ISI Agents

436. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISI agents are infiltrating in the country in the garb of Afغانis;

(b) if so, the number of such ISI agents identified so far;

(c) whether the Government have taken action against these ISI agents as per the International Law;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K.

ADVANI) : (a) It is not correct to say that ISI agents are infiltrated in the country in the garb of Afغانis. However, a large number of Afghan mercenaries were inducted in Kashmir Valley at the behest of Pak ISI/PAK intelligence agencies for terrorist activities.

(b) Number of Afغانis Identified during 1991 to 1998 is 85.

(c) to (e) ISI agents/Afghan mercenaries arrested are dealt with under the relevant laws.

Opening of CGHS Dispensary in Chandigarh

437. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision for opening of CGHS dispensary in the Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this dispensary is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) A proposal to open a CGHS dispensary in Chandigarh has been included in the Annual Plan, 1998-99.

(b) and (c) Expansion of CGHS requires augmentation of staff. A committee is presently conducting a work study of the existing CGHS dispensaries upon which interalia plans for further expansion of CGHS dispensaries depend.

Special Audit Team for Freedom Fighters

438. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the non-official members of Special Audit Team has expressed their disagreement on the reviewed cases considered for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite sanctioning of the remaining cases of pension?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K.

ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Non-official members of the Special Audit Team recommended sanction of pension in about 800 cases which had been rejected earlier. Their recommendations were based, inter alia, on their personal knowledge and liberal interpretation of the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980. In certain cases they also gave the benefit of doubt to the applicants. Pension has so far been sanctioned in 650 cases recommended by them. In 50 cases it has not been found possible to accept their recommendations. The remaining cases have been taken up with the concerned State Governments/applicants.

Import of Wheat from Australia

439. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether storage facilities were considered before deciding to import wheat from Australia;

(b) if so, the reasons for lying imported wheat on ports; and

(c) the steps taken to lift wheat from the ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No imported wheat is lying at the ports.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Reply to MPs Letters

440. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the District Magistrates, Police Superintendents and Home Secretaries of Uttar Pradesh restricting them not to reply the letters from MPs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government to make it obligatory to reply the letters received from MPs?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Clear guidelines have been prescribed in the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure regarding prompt action to be taken in connection with communications received from the Members of Parliament. Attention of the State Governments has been drawn to these guidelines with the request to issue suitable instructions to all the offices and Public Undertakings under their control.

[English]

Drug Price Control Order

441. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to reduce and further rationalise the list of drug under Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) in tune with the general policy of liberalisation retaining about 15 drugs under DPCO for regulating prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of representations received in this regard; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) After promulgation of Drugs (Prices Control Order on the 6th January, 1995, the Government received several representations against inclusion of certain drugs under price control which were disposed off as per the notified criterion in the "Modified Drug Policy, 1986" of 1994.

Vacant Posts in Delhi Police

442. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI BIJOY KUMAR 'BIJOY' :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of key posts in Delhi Police are lying vacant resulting in the increase of crimes in Delhi;

(b) if so, the time by which the said vacancies are lying vacant alongwith the number of vacancies; and