

[English]

Population Research Centres

2591. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the population Research Centres operating in the Country especially in Gujarat as on date;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up Population Research Centres in all the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise.

(d) the time by which these centres are likely to be set up; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) Information is given in the statement enclosed .

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

(e) Present network of Population Research Centres is considered sufficient to cater to the research needs.

STATEMENT

SL. No.	Location of the Population Research Centres
1	2
1.	Institute for Social & Economic Change, Bangalore.
2.	M.S. University, Baroda.
3.	Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.
4.	Centre for Research in Rural & Industrial Development, Chandigarh.
5.	Punjab University, Chandigarh.
6.	Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi.
7.	J.S.S. Institute of Economic Research, Dharwad.
8.	The Gandhigram Institute of Rural Health & F.W. Trust, Dindigul Anna Distt., Tamil Nadu.
9.	Gauwhati University, Guwahati.
10.	Lucknow University, Lucknow.
11.	Patna University, Patna.
12.	Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics, Pune.
13.	Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla.

1	2
14.	University of Kashmir, Srinagar.
15.	University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
16.	Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur.
17.	Andhra University, Visakhapatnam.
18.	Directorate of Economic & Statistics, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

Firing Range

2592. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to prevent villages from the proposed 'Radhakonda' firing range; and

(b) the present stage of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b). There are no land acquisition proceedings for acquiring land for (Rachakonda) Rajkonda firing range.

Rates to Suppliers

2593. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Price no bar for Rail Bhawan" appearing in the 'Business Standard', New Delhi dated November 17, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Procurement of various track fittings at Railway Board level was started two years back subsequent to the realisation that there were wide variation in rates paid by the different Zonal Railways and centralised bulk procurement could bring down rates by inducing price competition. The said report says that procurement of elastic rail clips and grooved rubber sole plates resulted in loss to the railways as higher prices were paid for these items. The fact, however, is that due to thorough scrutiny at various levels in the Railway Board and a strict assessment of market prices, the procurement of these items resulted in substantial savings. The updated prices of elastic rail clips and the declining prices of rubber with regard to the procurement of grooved rubber sole plates were taken into consideration while finalising the rates.

(c) The contents of the said report were not based on facts.