

(a) whether there is a proposal to expand the Defence Research Laboratory (Materials), Kanpur; and

(b) if so, the nature and extent of this expansion programme?

**The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri K. Raghuramaiah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The expansion programme for Defence Research Laboratory (Materials), Kanpur envisages the re-organisation of the Laboratory and the creation of an effective defence research centre for materials conventional as well as new materials such as high polymers, plastics, synthetic rubbers, fibres etc.

#### Government Assurances

**452. Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:** Will the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of assurances given by Government that were pending at the end of the previous session of the Lok Sabha; and

(b) the nature of steps taken by Government to see that the assurances are not kept pending for a long time?

**The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** (a) 342, out of which 128 were given during the previous Session.

(b) Every case involving an assurance is individually taken up with the Ministry concerned at appropriate levels to ensure early implementation.

#### Pondicherry Legislative Assembly

**453. Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union territory of Pondicherry has decided that Bills in Assembly should be introduced only in French and not in English; and

(b) if so, the reactions of Government thereto?

**The Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic**

**Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) On the 21st of September, 1963, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry ruled, after ascertaining the wishes of its Members, that the Bills should be introduced in French accompanied by their translations in English and Tamil.

(b) The Government of India see no objection to the above decision as the Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry is empowered under section 35 of the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963 to prescribe any language other than the English language for use in Bills introduced in, or Acts passed by, the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory.

#### Rohini Gliders

**454.** { Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Rohini gliders constructed at Kanpur have proved a success and are equal to the standard gliders of the world?

**The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah):** The Rohini Glider is designed by the Directorate General Civil Aviation and fully conforms to the International Airworthiness requirements. These Gliders have been subjected to extensive flight trials and the results have been successful.

#### Gun and Shell Factory, Cossipore

**455. Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether tractors are being manufactured in Gun and Shell Factory, Cossipore (West Bengal);

(b) if so, whether some difficulties are being experienced in the manufacture of tractors;

(c) whether nearly 80 welders are declared surplus; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor?