

efficiently. Actually the Caloric value of ration being given to Jawans is slightly more than that of Officers. These scales have been laid down in consultation with the highest medical authority in the Armed Forces.

Introduction of Uniform Civil Code

209. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating any steps to introduce uniform Civil Code in view of the recent Supreme Court judgment on the question of maintenance to a Muslim Women in which the necessity of such a measure was emphasized ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : No Sir. The framing of uniform civil code involves changes in the personal laws applicable to minority communities. It is the policy of the Government not to undertake any amendments in the personal laws relating to minority communities unless the initiative therefor comes from themselves

[Translation]

Setting up of UHF and Electronic Telephone Exchange at Pithoragarh (Uttar Pradesh)

210. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any site has been finally selected for the setting up of UHF and Electronic Telephone Exchange at Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if not, where does the matter stand ;

(c) if answer to part (a) be in affirmative, whether there is need for construction of a link road for the proposed site at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs ;

(d) whether administrative and financial sanction would be given for the construction of the link road so that the above exchange could be set up at the proposed site ; and

(e) the time by which it would be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Does not apply.

(c) Yes, Sir. Cost of Rs. 4 lakhs has been intimated by the State P.W.D. to the District Authorities for the construction of the above road.

(d) Administrative and financial sanction of the above link road is to be given by the District Authorities.

(e) District Administration is being pursued to issue sanction early.

[English]

Achievements of Defence Research Laboratories

211. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last five years over Rs. 400 crores have been spent on 40 laboratories under the control of the Defence Research and Development Organisation under his Ministry ;

(b) whether the results achieved at these laboratories are commensurate with the resources spent on them ;

(c) whether it is a fact that several projects have been languishing since seventies ;

(d) if so the causes thereof ; and

(e) whether Government have since enquired into this matter and if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE : (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A number of new major weapon systems have been developed and accepted for introduction into three services.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Question do not arise.

Charges for Connecting Device for D.B.C

212. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cooking gas dealers used to charge a sum of Rs. 75/- for the connecting device in case of D.B.C. ;

(b) whether it is a fact that after the introduction of pin type cylinders, that connecting device has become useless ;

(c) if so, whether the consumers can get the amount of Rs. 75/- or a little less from the dealer after depositing the said device ;

(d) if so, the details in this regard ; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The price of the tee connector generally varied between Rs. 80/- to Rs. 110/-

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) : Since the tee connector is the consumer's property, the price once paid is not refunded at the time of converting the equipment from 'F' type to 'SC' valve type of cylinder.

Missing Radar Scientist From Electronics and Radar Development Establishment

213. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the missing radar scientist from Electronics and Radar Development Establishment (ELRDE) was deeply involved in the Low-flying Radar Project (LFDR) ;

(b) whether he had a thorough knowledge about the klystron transmitter—the vital fourth sub-system of the proposed LFDR, the contract for which was given to the SML Co. of California, USA ;

(c) whether he has found a job in SML of California ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the action being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Shri Y. Ratnakar Rao who is missing from Electronics and Radar Development Establishment (LRDE), was working on the

transmission sub-system of the Low Level Early Warning Radar (LOWARD) for the Army. He was not working on the LFDR Project.

(b) Shri Y. Ratnakar Rao has some knowledge of the transmitter sub-system using Klystron. He is one of a group of about twenty scientists.

(c) and (d). It is not known whether Shri Y. Ratnakar Rao has gone abroad and accepted any assignment with SML of California.

(e) Disciplinary action for imposition of major penalty on Shri Y. Ratnakar Rao is being progressed. A complaint has also been lodged with the Police authorities in Bangalore vide FIR No. 290/85 dated 18 Jun 85 for obtaining a passport by surreptitious means concealing the fact of his employment in the Ministry of Defence. The case is under investigation.

Supply of Arms/by U.S.A. and Other Countries to India

214. SHRI B. V. DESAI :

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SETHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he accompanied the Prime Minister on his recent visit to Russia, U.S.A. and various other countries.

(b) if so, whether he impressed upon his counterparts in those countries the defence requirements of India.

(c) if so, whether any agreements in regard to the supply of arms to India were discussed and any final decision reached.

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) whether U.S.A. has agreed to assist India in supplying sophisticated arms ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (e).

I visited France and the U.S.A. as part of the Prime Minister's delegation. I availed of the opportunity to call upon my counterparts in both countries. These calls were not intended to seek specific defence supplies or equipment and no agreements were entered into with either country. Only general discussions were held,