

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The execution of the relief operations, in the event of natural calamities including drought, is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The criteria, for declaring a region as drought affected, is formulated by the State Governments. The Central Government do not issue any such guidelines in this regard. Generally, the magnitude of failure of crops due to inadequate rains forms the basis of declaring the area as an area affected by drought.

Pakistan's Atom Bomb

651. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 19th February, 1990 stating that Pakistan has six atom bombs of size of the one dropped on Hiroshima and is preparing to make an even more powerful bomb;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the past two years a number of reports have indicated that Pakistan has acquired the capability to produce nuclear bombs and that it has also gone through the necessary steps to test the reliability of such nuclear bombs without conducting any nuclear test explosion in Pakistan. Based on the estimated production and stockpile of highly enriched weapons grade uranium in Pakistan, there have been reports since March 1988 about the exact number of nuclear bombs likely in Pakistan's possession. There have also been reports about Pakistan having obtained through clandestine

means the crucial elements which can boost the yield of a nuclear bomb.

(c) The security situation of India is constantly under review, particularly in the light of the developments in her neighbourhood. Government of India will take all necessary measures designed to cope with any threat that may be posed to the security of the nation.

[Translation]

Setting up of States Re-Organisation Commission

652. SHRI GANGA CHARAN LODHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestions have been received by Government for setting up of States Re-organisation Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No such specific suggestion has been received in the recent past.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Educational Facilities for Children of Marine Fisherfolk in Orissa

653. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased state:

(a) the details of educational facilities provided to the children of marine fisherfolk in Orissa;

(b) whether arrangements have also