

environment. About 140 children were rendered orphaned in the recent earthquake in Maharashtra. These children are being kept in the SOS Children's Village, Pune and Jain Sansthan, Pune. These children will be shifted to SOS Children's Village at Latur after a few months for their permanent rehabilitation.

(c) The persons who have been rendered handicapped due to the recent earthquake have been supplied wheel chairs, crutches, cervical collars, water-bed mattresses and Lumbo sacral belts to overcome their disabilities. A team of expert was sent to Latur, Osmanabad and Sholapur with aids and appliances for supplying to the handicapped persons in these districts. The team has distributed 18 wheel chairs, 640 pairs of crutches, 200 cervical collars, 45 water-beds/mattresses and 200 Lumbo Sacral Belts free of cost to the persons rendered handicapped in the recent earthquake. Their longterm rehabilitation is being done with the help of various NGOs working in Maharashtra.

[Translation]

### **Official Language Policy**

1091. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of offices at different places to look after the implementation of the Official Language Policy;

(b) the number of such offices established during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of offices proposed to be established during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the time by which these offices are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Eight (8).

(b) Seven (7).

(c) Plan proposals include establishment of 5 regional Implementation offices during the Eighth Five Year Plan period, in addition to one office already established during the Eighth Plan.

(d) No precise time frame can be indicated at present for establishment of these offices.

### **Official Language Implementation Committees**

1092. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Official Language Implementation Committee were set up in the Head Office and other offices of the Border Security Force;

(b) whether the quarterly meetings are being held regularly; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.