(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Acquisition of Land by Army at Menshithang in Sikkim

1277. SHRI NANDU THAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the army, on the pretext of defence preparedness, occupied forest and private land at Menshithang in North Sikkim without acquiring and requisitioning the land;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the army has taken possession of the land without the clearance of Ministry of Forest and Environment; and
- (c) If so, the future plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJOY SINGH): (a) In May 1989, Army took over 141.51 acres of forest land and 57.59 acres of private land in North Sikkim to meet bona fide operational requirements.

(b) The land was taken over with the

concurrence of the State Government who recommended to the Ministry of Environment & Forests the transfer of forest land for defence purposes.

(c) The land will be utilised for the purpose for which it was taken over.

[Translation]

Persons who Secured Employment through Employment Exchanges

1278. DR. CHINTA MOHAN: SHRI R.N. RAKESH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of youths who secured employment through the Employment Exchanges during 1990, State-wise and the number out of them belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): The State-wise number of placements effected through Employment Exchanges in the country during 1990 is furnished in the Statement below. The latest available State-wise information on placements, effected of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe jobseekers, relating to January-June, 1990, as well as all category placements effected through employment exchanges is also furnished in the statement.