

[Translation]

Ministry-wise number of officers retired compulsorily

2565. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the Ministry-wise number of officers given compulsory retirement from service so far during this year and reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Compulsory retirement is one of the major penalties which could be imposed as a result of disciplinary proceedings by the appropriate disciplinary authorities in various Ministries/Departments. Rules also contain a provision for premature retirement in public interest of Government employees after attaining the age of 50/55 years or after rendering 30 years service. A review is continuously done by the respective Ministries in this regard. Information in regard to the number of officers compulsorily or prematurely retired and reasons for such retirement is, therefore, not centrally available.

[English]

Protest lodged with Pakistan for opening of Khunjerab Pass to foreigners

2566. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of EXTENAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan and China have agreed to open the Khunjerab Pass on the Karakoram highway to foreigners;

(b) whether Government have assessed the danger posed to the security and Sovereignty of India by this new more by Pakistan;

(c) whether any protest has been lodged with Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Pakistan thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government are alive the political and strategic implications of the moves by Pakistan in regard to road construction and use in the Pakistan occupied Kashmir. All developments impinging on our security are monitored and all necessary measures are taken to ensure full defence preparedness.

(c) and (d). Government have on different occasions protested to both Pakistan and China against the illegal construction of the Karakoram highway as well as against opening of the Khunjerab Pass to traffic between Pakistan and China. The Government of Pakistan has characterised our protest as "unwarranted and not acceptable" The Government of course does not agree with those views.

Drug addiction in metropolitan cities during last three years

2567. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of drug addicts detected in each of the last three years and the current year in each of the metropolitan cities of Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Kanpur and also in the country as a whole;

(b) the average proportion in number of boys and girls addicts;

(c) action proposed in this regard; and

(d) reasons for drug addiction among youth ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b). No National survey has so far been done to assess the problem of drug abuse and alcoholism in the country. To assess the changing trend about the problem of drug abuse, this