

[*Translation*]

**Pay and Allowances to Group 'B'
Civilian Employees of A.F.H.Q.**

5461. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reconsidered the pay scales and allowances of 'B' group civilian employees of the Armed Forces Headquarters and made necessary revision therein as per the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission ;

(b) if so, the date since when the pay increase was effected and the salient points thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these will be made effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE : (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Government have considered the revision of pay scales and allowances of Group 'B' civilian employees of Armed Forces Headquarters in the light of the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission.

(b) The orders on the accepted recommendations have been made applicable from 1-1-86. The salient points are contained in S.R.O. No. 12(E) published in Gazette of India Extraordinary on 23 Sep. 86, S.R.O. No. 13(E) published in Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 29 Sep. 86 and S.R.O. 9(E) published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 20 Mar. 87.

(c) Does not arise.

Co-operative Cotton Mill in M.P.

5462. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry propose to set up a co-operative cotton mill in Madhya Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Union Government do not set up co-operative cotton mills.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[*English*]

**Harpoon Missiles Acquired by
Pakistan**

5463. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has seen the reports that Pakistan has acquired submarine launched Harpoon Missiles recently

(b) main features and range of this missile system ; and

(c) implications for India's security, resulting from acquisition of these missiles by Pakistan Navy, and how Government propose to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Harpoon Missiles are a second generation sea-skimming antiship missiles with an all weather capability and a range of about 110 km.

(c) Government of India keeps all developments having a bearing on the country's security under constant observation and initiates appropriate counter-measures, from time to time, to maintain defence preparedness. The Indian Navy is re-equipped and modernised in keeping with the emerging threat perceptions.

**Counter Purchase Agreement with
M/s. Bofors**

5464. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. A.B. Bofors have started counter-purchase of commodities under its agreement with the State Trading Corporation of India (STC) ;

(b) the quantity and value and details of commodities purchased so far by M/s. A.B. Bofors under this agreement ; and

(c) whether negotiations were held in London between the representatives of

M/s. A.B. Bofors of Sweden and the State Trading Corporation of India in October, 1987 on implementation of this agreement, if so, details thereof and why such negotiations were held in London and not in Delhi where the agreement was signed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c) Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between M/s. Bofors and STC of India, M/s. Bofors, their eligible associates, partners, assignees and affiliates can make counter purchase of commodities. Export contracts concluded upto 31.10.87 under the MOU were valued at Rs. 14.46 crores for the following items :

(i) Tobacco	Rs. 4 06 crores
(ii) Cotton Yarn	Rs. 0 13 crores
(iii) Chemicals & Drugs	Rs. 10.27 crores
Total	Rs. 14.46 crores

A performance review meeting was held between representatives of STC and M/s. Bofors and some of their associates in October, 1987 in London. The meeting was held in London as per mutual agreement in accordance with the provisions in MOH.

Replantation of Cardamom in Kerala

5465. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area in Kerala where replantation of cardamom is being attempted ;

(b) the details of the plan, if any, in this regard ;

(c) whether there is any time frame for completing this ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (d) Cardamom Replantation Scheme has been introduced since 83-84. The scheme provides for

subsidies for replantation. When the Scheme was launched the total registered area under cardamom in Kerala was 58,769 hectares. It is programmed to cover 1200 hectares annually under the replantation scheme

Value Added Cardamom

5466. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the spices Board has any plan to manufacture and market value added cardamom products ;

(b) if so, the performance in this regard ;

(c) whether the Board has taken up any project with the International Trade Centre, Geneva, in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under the integrated programme of technical cooperation in trade promotion, a project for development of end use products of cardamom has been taken up with the International Trade Centre. The project involves identifying the products for development by conducting research in Europe and developing the selected products Phase I of the project has been completed and Phase II is in progress.

Research on Drought Resistance Strain of Cardamom

5467. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any research is being conducted to develop the drought-resistance strain of cardamom ; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trials are in progress.