

Deployment of Para Military Forces to Assam during Election

2860. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the strength of the para military forces sent to Assam during the election processes in the State Commencing from the date of filing of nominations.

(b) whether there were prior consultations with the Election Commission regarding the induction of para military forces in Assam;

(c) how many times the para military forces resorted to firing; and

(d) what was the number of persons killed during these firings and the number of persons injured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) A total of 312 Coys of Central and State police forces from out-side Assam were provided to the State Government for maintenance of law and order and in connection with the elections.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). According to State Government during 1983 upto 1st March police had to resort to firing on 206 occasions resulting in the death of 140 persons. The number of injured persons is being ascertained and will be laid on the table of the House.

Percentage Increase in Plan Outlays

2861. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase in plan outlays in terms of National average for the year 1983-84 over 1982-83; and

(b) what is percentage increase for West Bengal for the same period?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) The increase in the Plan outlay for 1983-84 (taking the Centre, States and Union Territories together) over the corresponding outlay for 1982-83, is 21.5 per cent. In the case of the Plan outlays of the States alone, the increase is 16.1 per cent. In the case of Assam, the outlay for 1983-84 is provisional.

(b) In the case of West Bengal, the corresponding increase is 10.2 after providing advance plan assistance of Rs. 69.05 crores.

Research done by Young Scientists.

2862. SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken to enable young scientists to pursue their research ideas without being hampered by hierarchal obstructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): The Report of the Working Group on Science and Technology for the Sixth Plan has recognised the need "for a more purposeful and satisfying involvement of younger research workers in the major scientific establishments, universities, public sector R&D institutions and other organisations supported by Government on a continuing basis".

2. The Department of Science and Technology has initiated several steps in this regard. Some of the important measures already being implemented are:

—The Department has formulated a new Scheme in the Sixth Five-Year Plan entitled "Promotion of Scientific Interest in Youth", under which direct financial support is extended exclusively to scientists in the younger age group below 35 years for taking up research projects on their own ideas and themselves acting as Principal Investigators without being hampered by any hierarchical system.