

**Naxalites' Proposal for a Long March
in West Bengal**

365. SHRI SUBODH HANSDA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRI) be pleased to state

(a) whether there was any proposal for a long march by the Naxalites in the month of March in West Bengal particularly in the Districts of Midnapur and Parulia ;

(b) if not, whether such things are likely to happen in the near future ; and

(c) whether the Naxalites have increased their activities for such a venture ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAIYA MANTRI) (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). Government have seen Press reports in this regard Government have also received similar information and are aware of a few instances of snatching of arms by the extremists. Utmost vigilance is being maintained.

**Demand for Indian Roses in Foreign
Countries**

366 SHRI SUBODH HANSDA Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is demand for Indian Roses in foreign countries ;

(b) if so, the names of countries ;

(c) whether any order has been received from them , and

(d) if so, when they will be supplied ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI A. C. GFORGE) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir There is some demand in the Western European Countries like U.K., France and West Germany during winter months

(c) and (d). The State Trading Corporation of India propose to export about 4000 dozen cut roses during December, 1971—March, 1972 even though they have not got any specific orders so far. Information about private parties is not available.

**Raising of Age Limit for Entering
Government Services**

367. SHRI CHANDRAPPAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER (PRADHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of extending the age limit for entering Government services from 25 years to 30 years has been considered by Government ; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (GRIH MANTRALAYA AUR KARMIK VIBHAG MFN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The Minimum and maximum age limits for recruitment to different posts under Government as obtaining at present were fixed in 1959 after taking into account the recommendations made in this regard by the Public Service (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr A Ramaswamy Mudaliar which had gone into this matter in great detail. The Administrative Reforms Commission have, however, recommended raising of age limits for the non-technical higher services to 26 years so that candidates who might have pursued higher studies in specialised fields or have received training abroad, may be eligible to appear at the competitive examinations for such services. This recommendation is under examination. Similarly, a suggestion made by the Staff side in a recent meeting of the National Council of the Joint Consultative Machinery for raising the upper age limit recruitment to Class III ministerial posts is also under examination.

Increase in Expenditure on Yojana Ayog

368. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY Will the Minister of PLANNING (YOJANA MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the abnormal increase in expenditure on the Yojana Ayog and, if so, the amount spent on it at the end of the First Five Year Plan and in the year 1970-71 ; and

(b) the percentage of expenditure being incurred on the hard core of economists engaged on the real job of Planning and Research and the percentage of expenditure

being incurred on persons engaged in administrative and clerical work such as Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Section Officers, Assistants, Clerks and Class IV Staff ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (YOJANA MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) The expenditure in 1955-56 which was the last year of the First Five Year Plan and 1970-71 is as follows :

1955-56	—	Rs. 39,84,000
1970-71	—	Rs. 1,33,55,000
		(provisional figures)

The substantial increase in the outlay of the subsequent Plans which covered much larger field of development required not only the strengthening of the existing technical Divisions but also warranted the creation of additional units to handle the multi-type complex development problems. Keeping in view the usual growth rate of administrative expenditure over a period of fifteen years, the expenditure on the additional units which had to be added to meet the needs of the subsequent plans and also additional benefits sanctioned by the Government to its employees in the shape of revision of pay scales, repeated revision of dearness allowance, sanctioning of interim relief and other fringe benefits like the Children's Education Allowance, refunds of tuition fees etc., the above increase in the expenditure of the Planning Commission over a period of fifteen years cannot be considered abnormal.

(b) The Planning Commission being an advisory body has to employ not only economists but also specialists in various fields and disciplines like agriculture, engineering, public health, geology, sociology, statistics etc. Since all these officers work for the Plan purposes, they form the hard core. The break-up of the total expenditure is as follows :

1. Hard core of Planners	...	61%
2. Supporting staff for the hard core like stenographers, typists and other staff looking after office records in the technical divisions	...	18%

3. Common services like Library, Hindi section, duplicating section, publications and plan information, maps and charts unit, Messenger system etc.	...	10%
4. Administration and house-keeping jobs	...	11%

Export of Roses through S.T.C.

369. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been great spurt in the export of roses by the State Trading Corporation ;

(b) if so, the value of exports during the current season and the countries to which these were exported ; and

(c) how does the State Trading Corporation make purchases of roses and what price per bloom is paid by it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (VIDESH VYAPAR MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Export of cut roses is in a developmental stage. The State Trading Corporation exported roses valued at Rs. 710 l.o.b. to London in six trial shipments during November, 1970—February, 1971.

(c) The STC purchases roses directly from growers at a price of Rs. 0.75 per bloom.

Memorandum presented to Prime Minister Re: Old Age Pension to Freedom Fighters

370. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS (GRIH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether a memorandum regarding the grant of minimum old age pension of Rs. 150 per month to the freedom fighters has been presented to her ;