

Setting up of a Military Training Centre in Kerala

2605. SHRI VAYALAR HAVI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision regarding the setting up of Military Training Centre in Kerala considering the large number of persons being recruited to the armed forces from that State; and

(b) if so, the details there of and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present, for setting up any new Military Training Centre in Kerala.

Exploration for minerals near Goa Sea Shore

2606. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether Government propose to explore the possibilities of finding minerals near the sea shore of Goa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): Programme of exploration for minerals off the sea coast of Goa by collection of samples from sea floor is under consideration.

Expulsion of P.T.I man by Nepal Government

2607. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal Government had expelled a PTI man during July 1973; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The accreditation of Shri Ram Patro, PTI representative in Kathmandu, was withdrawn by the Government of Nepal on 18th July, 1973. On 18th July he was served with an order by the Government of Nepal to leave the country by 20th July.

(b) The Government of India took up this matter with the Government of Nepal and at the same time requested the Government of Nepal for the reasons for which action was taken against Shri Patro. The precise reasons have not so far been communicated to Government.

Demand for guaranteed minimum Wages for Bidi workers in Madhya Pradesh

2608. SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Bidi industry of Madhya Pradesh, the workers employed to roll Bidis are not being provided with sufficient full day's work and there is a demand for guaranteed minimum wages; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b). The matter falls in the State sphere.

Allotment of Steel to drought affected States

2609. SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed by the Central Government for the alloca-