

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The vacancy of Constables and other officials is shown below:

Name of Force	Constables	Other officials
CRPF	2210	1614
BSF	362	4889
ITBP	42	522
CISF	—	1247
Assam Rifles	350	—

(b) Details of actual recruitment is as under:

Name of Force	Year			
	1994	1995	1996	1997 (Estimated requirements)
CRPF	6752	5490	2096	3168
BSF	7310	9030	3156	8232 (up to 31-12-97)
ITBP	1205	1635	568	564
CISF	5280	391	4894	1317
Assam Rifles	2324	1682	1382	1550

(c) Recruitment of Constables/Rifleman in Central Para Military Forces is made on all India basis. The annual vacancies are allotted to each State/UT on the basis of the population, taking into consideration the special needs and circumstances of different areas.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

Conference of State Home Ministers

922. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of State Home Ministers was recently held at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of agenda discussed and decisions arrived at; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) No Conference of the Home Ministers has been convened in the recent past. However, a Conference of the Chief Ministers of States/UTs was held on 24th May, 1997 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to discuss an Action Plan for Effective and Responsive Government. The Action Plan dealt with three themes, namely, Accountable and Citizen-friendly Government, Transparency and Right to Information, and Improving the performance and Integrity of the Public Services. The issues that were discussed under these themes and which are being followed up at Central and State levels are:

- (i) Citizens Charter and accountable administration;
- (ii) Effective and speedy public grievance redressal system;
- (iii) Empowering elected local bodies and decentralised delivery of services;
- (iv) Review of laws, regulations and procedures;
- (v) Transparency and Right to information;
- (vi) Access of the public to Information from public offices and facilitation counters;
- (vii) Code of Ethics for public services;
- (viii) Tackling corruption and cleansing the administration; and
- (ix) Stability of tenure and a scheme for Civil Services Boards.

The Chief Ministers and Central Ministers attending the Conference strongly endorsed the need for ensuring responsive, accountable, transparent and people-friendly administration at all levels. In the Resolution adopted at the Conference, the States welcomed the initiatives taken by the Prime Minister towards more effective and responsive administration and stated that these initiatives were important and timely. It was agreed that each State would work for the implementation of the Action Plan, making appropriate allowance for variation in local circumstances.

The Government has set up a Committee under the Cabinet Secretary including some Chief Ministers representing different regions of the country as well as some senior officials of the Government of India in order to elaborate different elements of the Action Plan and work out various decisions required at Central and State levels.