

who have less than 3 years to retire provided the findings of their study will have a direct bearing on the improvement of the Sangathan concerning employee morale, management system, human relations, organisational structure, etc. at the KVS or the Vidyalaya level;

5. The grant of study leave shall be subject to the approval of Vice-Chairman, KVS;
6. Study leave shall not be granted at a time to more than 1% of regular employees in a cadre; and
7. Study leave may be granted only once in the entire span of service for a period not exceeding 2 years.

Ground Water Level

2336. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of falling ground water level, a special project is being launched at the earliest, in Jabalpur district under which the repairs and renovation work of such old ponds falling in the district will be undertaken;

(b) if so, the comprehensive cost details of the project and the financial assistance etc. provided by the State and the Central Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which this project will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) As per the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, no such special project is being launched in the Jabalpur District.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Extradition Treaty with US

2337. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had any proposal to sign Extradition Treaty with the United States;

(b) whether the Government have studied the draft extradition treaty;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof;

(d) whether the treaty has been signed;

(e) if so, when; and

(f) the other steps that are being taken by both the countries to combat terrorism including narco terrorism and drug trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). India and the US initiated formal talks on the proposal to sign a new Extradition Treaty

in 1993. Two rounds of talks were held, from 28 September-1 October, 1993 in New Delhi and from 19-21 October, 1994 in Washington. Thereafter, suggestions made by both sides were examined in detail on either side. Negotiations have since been concluded. India and the US are presently in the course of processing the text for signature under their respective systems. The draft of the new Extradition Treaty addresses the need felt by both Governments to revise existing extradition arrangements, keeping in view modern trends in extradition law and practice.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government believe that international cooperation is essential to combat terrorism, including narco-terrorism and drug trafficking. There are established procedures of cooperation between the authorities of India and the US on counterterrorism involving exchange of information, training and mutual assistance for investigations and prosecutions. India and the US also have a Joint Working Group on Narcotics which meets annually. Stepped-up interaction between Narcotics/Revenue officials on both sides has helped strengthen cooperation in combatting illegal trafficking in narcotics at all levels, including production, trafficking and drug abuse.

New Regiment

2338. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to raise a new regiment during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether for the setting up of new regiment, army has to cut its funds for procurement of sophisticated arms and ammunition;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of vacancies in various ranks existing at present in the army;

(f) whether the Government propose to fill up all vacancies before raising the new regiment; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (g). Recently the Prime Minister has proposed setting up of Karnataka

Regiment in the Army. The matter is being further considered in consultation with the Army Headquarters. The cost of raising the regiment, and other details have still to be computed.

The details of vacancies in various ranks existing at present in the Army are as under :

(a) **Officers** (Arms and services)

General	-	Nil
Lt. General	-	02
Maj General	-	02
Brigadier	-	02
Colonel	-	111
Lt. Colonel	-	79
Major	-	3706
Captain and below	-	8259
Total	-	12161

(b) **Officers**

Army Medical Corps	-	332
Military Nursing Service	-	449
Army Dental Corps	-	44
Total	-	825

(c) The deficiency in respect of Junior Commissioned Officers and Other Ranks in the Arms and Services is 58300 Army personnel.

Development of National Highway

2339 PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 25 percent of the total goods traffic was being handled by the road transport in the year 1951 in the country;

(b) if so, whether by the year 2000 it is likely to go upto 87%;

(c) if not, the estimate of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether in view of the increasing pressure on roads network there is need to priority to the development of road network; and

(e) if so, the proposed targets for the expansion and development of National Highways alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e). As per National Transport Policy Committee (NTPC), the share of road and rail for freight traffic in the year 1950-51 was 11:89 which changed to 32:68 in 1978. Even though the traffic demand has not been assessed thereafter, the freight traffic on roads has grown up considerably. However, it

has not been possible to adequately widen/expand the network due to resource constraints.

Water Transport Facility through Brahmaputra

2340. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start water transport facility between Guwahati and rest of the country through river Brahmaputra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The river Brahmaputra from Sadiya to Dhubri is a National Waterway and is connected to Calcutta/Haldia ports by the transit and trade protocol route through Bangladesh and Sunderbans. The entire waterway route from Guwahati to Haldia/Calcutta is navigable by mechanically propelled vessels throughout the year and cargo vessels are plying between Guwahati and Calcutta region via Bangladesh. This water transport route extends beyond Calcutta along National Waterway No. 1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly) upto Allahabad.

Setting up of Cargo Handling berths, etc. by Foreign Industries

2341. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several foreign industries have shown keen interest to set up specialised cargo handling berths, container terminals and oil jetties.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined those proposals; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Private entrepreneurs including foreign investors have been permitted to participate in private sector participation proposals in the areas indicated in Statement-I. A list of proposals involving foreign investors which stand approved are given in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Areas thrown open for Private Sector participation in Port Sector

Government has approved clear and transparent guidelines for private sector participation in ports to cover following areas :

(1) Leasing out existing assets of the Port.

(2) Construction/creation of additional assets, such as :

(a) Construction and operation of container terminals.