

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : A statement is attached.

(c) and (d) The strengthening and modernisation of the weaponry of our Armed Forces is attended to by the Government on a continuing basis to maintain the required level of defence preparedness. While these efforts are limited to the budgetary allocations made for the purpose, attempts are made to augment resources by recourse to economy measures wherever possible, and to maintain essential defence preparedness by resort to prioritisation of requirements.

#### Statement

1. The military expenditure in India and in Pakistan and China, in terms of proportion of the Central Government expenditure, as per the published data available, is as under :—

Country	Proportion of the Central Government expenditure		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (Provisional)
Pakistan	34.31%	34.52%	34.43%
India	15.58%	15.15	14.69%
China	16.20	Not available	Not available

(\* Source : Asian Strategic Review-1994-95.)

2. There is, however, an inherent drawback in such comparisons on account of the difference in the criteria used for the classification and categorisation of the expenditure on Defence by different countries. The amount of defence spending or defence budget of any country, as such, may not reflect the actual degree of defence efforts and may not provide the basis for a comparison on a like to like basis with that of other nations. For instance, some countries show the expenditure on capital works and on defence related industries under the budgetary allocations of Ministries/ Departments other than Ministry of Defence. Nor are statistical parameters like this necessarily a true measure of the combat expertise or level of defence preparedness of the armed forces in realistic terms.

#### Development of NHs in Karnataka

2409. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals for the development of National Highways submitted by the Government of Karnataka to the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the details of the proposals out of them approved/yet to be approved and the funds sanctioned therefor;

(c) the reasons for not clearing the remaining proposals;

(d) whether the construction work of any of the sanctioned projects is being delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) :

(a)	Year	Nos. of proposals
	1994-95	48
	1995-96	35
	1996-97	19

(b) Year	Approved	Not approved/ yet to be approved (Rs. in lakh)	Sanctioned amount
1994-95	45	3	2668.61
1995-96	20	15	2427.48
1996-97	4	15	4293.87

(c) The remaining proposals were not cleared as the same were not finding place in the respective Annual Plan due to paucity of funds.

(d) and (e) The work of improvements to geometrics from Km. 330.525 to 332.50 on NH-48 in South Kannara District is delayed. The Revised Estimate for the above work is under correspondence with the State P.W.D.

[Translation]

#### Development of Sanskrit

2410. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several seminars were organised last year in various parts of the country to frame a national policy for development of Sanskrit;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the draft prepared on the basis of these seminars; and

(c) the time by which this policy is likely to be implemented?