GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEFENCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:787 ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000 SETTING UP OF UNIFIED COMMAND FORCE V. SAROJA;VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a unified command force to coordinate Army, Navy and Air Force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the other measures being contemplated to bring about proper coordination amongst the three wings of the Armed Forces?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): While there is no specific proposal to set up a Unified Command Force to coordinate Army, Navy and Air Force with the Government, the Government constituted a Group of Ministers on 17th April2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and formulate specific proposals for implementation. Keeping in view the wide scope of the terms of reference of the Group of Ministers (GoM) and in accordance with its mandate, the GoM appointed four task forces, one each in the area of intelligence apparatus, internal security, border management and defence management. These Task Forces have since submitted their reports to the GoM. The GoM, would after consideration of these reports and all other relevant aspects formulate suitable proposals for implementation.