

*[English]***Para Military Forces**

4922. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of death of Personnel of Para Military Forces have been brought to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of cases of family Pension, employment on compassionate grounds to their dependents and other financial benefits have been finalised by the Government; and

(c) the number of cases pending in regard to employment on compassionate grounds indicating the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of cases finalised by the Government are as under:—

(i) Family pension and other financial benefits.	2418
(ii) Appointment on compassionate grounds to the dependents	674
(c) Total number of pending cases	569

Reasons:—

- (1) As per instructions of DOP&T, only 5% vacancies against direct recruitment quota in Group C & D posts can be filled up under compassionate appointments.
- (2) Dispute about actual Next of Kin, plural marriage, Court cases, succession certificates or non-availability of vacancy in the trade in which employment can be provided.

*[Translation]***Increase in Naxalite Activities**

4923. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether naxalite activities have been increasing in Jahanabad and surrounding areas resulting in incidents of carange during the last two years;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to provide para-military force and additional financial assistance to the Government of Bihar to counter naxalites;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) The activities of left wing extremists as well as of various Senas have resulted in an increase in the number of killings in Jehanabad and surrounding areas. This has been a cause of concern to the Central Government. The Central Government has been providing Central para-military forces to the State to tackle the problem. The Central Government has also been providing financial assistance to the State under its Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces. The assistance extended to the State under this Scheme during the last two years was Rs. 11.00 crores approximately. It may be mentioned that a sum of Rs. 69.00 crores is also available to the State for upgradation of its police force as recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

*[English]***Action against LTTE**

4924. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to take effective steps against LTTE in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the way of handling them thereof; and

(c) the time by which the steps are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Central and State Governments are taking coordinated action to prevent any illegal activities by Sri Lankan militants in Tamil Nadu. Considering that Tamil Nadu has a long coastline, elaborate arrangements have been made for preventing possible infiltration. State Government has intensified security arrangements along the coastline by setting up armed check posts as well as mobile patrols. Apart from

these measures, the Palk Bay is kept under continuous surveillance by the Navy and Coast Guard.

The Central Government declared the LTTE as an unlawful association on 14.5.1998. This has strengthened the hands of the State and Central Governments in containing the activities of LTTE.

Royalty on Crude Oil

4925. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of royalty on crude oil is due for revision w.e.f. 1.4.1996;

(b) whether the rates were revised earlier by the Central Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the rates are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) After considering the recommendations of the Eswaran Committee and discussions with the concerned State Governments, the rate of royalty on crude oil was last fixed at Rs. 481 per metric tonne for the period 1.4.1990 to 31.3.1993 in February, 1993. For the period 1.4.1993 to 31.3.1996, an 'on account' payment @ Rs. 528 per metric tonne towards royalty on crude oil was made subject to adjustment on notification of the final rate of royalty and finalisation of crude price in due course. This 'on account' rate of royalty has been increased to Rs. 578 per metric tonne with effect from 1.4.1996.

For the three year period (1993-94 to 1995-96), the actual weighted average cost of production is being audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and the final rate of royalty will be notified on this basis and necessary adjustments made against the 'on account' payments already made.

[Translation]

Purchase of Medicines by M.S.D.

4926. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CGHS beneficiaries registered at medical store depot;

(b) whether Medical Store Depot can indent medicines on local purchase;

(c) if so, the reasons for such purchases and for whom these Local Purchase indents were made;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on such purchases during 1997-98;

(e) the policy of the Government for such purchases;

(f) whether the purchases made by Incharge Medical Store Depot is legal;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) As per the present procedure, CGHS beneficiaries are not registered at the CGHS Medical Store Depot (MSD).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The medicines are procured from the authorised chemists to ensure timely supply of the same to the CGHS beneficiaries besides avoiding inconvenience, if any, caused to them.

(d) For CGHS, Delhi—Rs. 27,51,94,002

For CGHS outside Delhi—the information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

(e) As in (c) above.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. All the purchases made the Medical Store Depot are legal.

(h) In view of (f) above, the question does not arise.

[English]

Tribal Belt

4927. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: