

- (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
 (c) the remedial steps taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The involvement of Pakistan ISI and the Army in supporting the militants activities in J&K is well known. The State Government, in coordination with the security forces, is taking all measures to combat militancy in J&K. The successful operations carried out by our armed forces have brought the situation under reasonable control. The public in J&K has been weaned away from militancy, as is clear from the successful holding of Parliament & Assembly elections in the state.

Revival of Defence Intelligence Agency

1930. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
 SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
 SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive the Defence Intelligence Agency to guard against pre-emptive enemy strikes and recent US missile attacks on targets in Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Land Record

1931. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to up date the land records and for their maintenance;

(b) the progress made in this regard in each State; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) The Government of India have been executing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. (1) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Strengthening of Revenue Administration & Updating of Land Records (SRA & ULR) since 1987-88 and (2) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records since 1988-89 for updation and maintenance of land records in the country.

(b) and (c) The legal system as well as the administrative arrangement for land revenue and land records maintenance differ in various States of the Country.

The land records are available in fairly updated position in the States. The State of West Bengal has completed the revisional survey settlement operations a few years back. The States of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala have completed survey settlement operations in major parts and the States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh etc. are planning to take up revisional survey settlement operations afresh.

Updation of land records is a continuous process. However, online management of land records ensuring instant service under the programme of Computerisation of Land Records is expected to be completed within the 9th Plan period.

Electric Sheet Mills in R.S.P.

1932. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Electric Sheet Mill of Rourkela Steel Plant has been closed down;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether alternative steps are being taken to replace the E.S.M. Plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) The Electrical Sheet Mill (ESM) of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) was closed down in 1996 due to high cost of production and low demand, leading to its economic unviability. Hot Rolled Electrical Sheets face competition from Cold Rolled Electrical Sheets which offer much superior quality and attractive techno-economics to electrical equipment manufacturers. Since RSP is already producing Cold Rolled Electrical Sheets from 1984 in Silicon Steel Mill, which is a replacement product, hence there is no proposal to replace the ESM plant.

Gauge Conversion of Darbhanga-Jayanagar Rail Line

1933. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJIHARPUR) : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question no. 193 given on May 28, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the necessary clearances have been obtained for the conversion of Darbhanga-Jayanagar rail line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the conversion work on said line is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.