

Casualties during Siachen Operations

7758. SHRIMORESHWARSAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of army personnel killed/disabled in the Siachen Operation;
- (b) whether the families of the disabled have since been rehabilitated; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (d). It is not possible to disclose this information in the interest of national security.

Development of Indian Languages

7759. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government continue to assist the development of modern Indian languages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the Government institutions which are rendering research, training, correspondence courses and training programmes besides providing academic support to the Government; and
- (d) detailed achievements during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (d). The development and promotion of modern Indian languages is primarily the concern of the State Govern-

ments. However, the Government of India have been implementing a number of programmes for promotion of modern Indian languages including Hindi, directly and through the institutions set up by it. Some of the important programmes implemented by the Government during the last three years are:

- i) Financial assistance to voluntary organisations as well as individuals for bringing out publications in Indian languages.
- ii) Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for promotional activities in various modern Indian languages. Over 170 organisations have been given assistance.
- iii) Distribution of books in Indian languages to libraries and educational institutions (free of cost).
- iv) Financial assistance to 15 States and 4 universities for preparation and production of university level text-books in Indian languages.
- v) Financial assistance to Governments of non-Hindi speaking States/Union Territories for appointment of Hindi teachers in schools at primary to higher-secondary levels under the centrally sponsored scheme of appointment of Hindi teachers in non-Hindi speaking States: 3,066 Hindi teachers were appointed under this scheme during the last three years.
- vi) Financial assistance to Governments on non-Hindi speaking States/Union Territories and voluntary organisations for establishment of Hindi teacher training