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Pensionary Benefit to Retired Punjab Government Employees

1855. SHRI KIRPAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government pensioners who were in service from 1947 to May, 1956 are getting pension benefits like Rs. 40/- for dental charges, Rs-75/- for spectacles and medical allowance as are given to other pensioners of Punjab Government;

(b) if not, the number of such pensioners;

(c) whether the Government are considering to grant such facilities to these retired employees of Punjab Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA):

(a) to (d). Fixed medical allowance of Rs. 40-/p.m. is granted to such of those Punjab Govt. pensioners who have opted for the same. This allowance as well as the prescribed reimbursement of cost of spectacles are admissible to all Punjab Government pensioners irrespective of their dates of retirement. There is no "Pension benefit like Rs. 40/- for dental charges" for Punjab Government pensioners.

[Translation]

Arrest of Persons Involved in Terrorists Activities in J & k and Punjab

1856. SHRI KANKAR MUNJARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons involved in terrorists activities apprehended in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir during the year 1889 and 1990; and

(b) the details of the action taken against them, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MIN-ISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). In Punjab 2466 extremists were arrested in 1989 and 1637 were arrested upto November, 1990. In Jammu and Kashmir, 124 terrorists were arrested during 1989. In 1990, 4593 persons were apprehended in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, of whom, 2044 were arrested under TADA after preliminary enquiries.

In Jammu and Kashmir TADA cases have been started and 892 persons are under detention. In Punjab the State Government is taking appropriate action under the law.

[English]

Bodo Volunteers

1857. SHRIMORESHWAR SAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bodo volunteers are armed with sophisticated rocket launchers;

(b) if so, the Government reaction thereto; and

(c) the approximate strength of Bodo volunteers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MIN-ISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). The Government has no information about possession of sophisticated rocket launchers by Bodo volunteers. It is difficult to make a guess about strength of the Bodo volunteers with reasonable accuracy.

Holding of Meeting In Cities in Punjab by Terrorists

1858. SHRIMORESHWAR SAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to to state: (a) whether it is a fact that terrorists are holding meeting in public gardens in broad day light in several cities of Punjab; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities and to check the inflow of arms and ammunition that is going around these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MIN-ISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: (a) and (b). Information in this regards is not readily available and is being collected.

Benefits of Backwardness to the People of Turtuk Jammu and Kashmir

1859. SHRI MOHANBHAI SANJIBHAI DELKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of Turtuk in Jammu and Kashmir are not being given the benefits of backwardness;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WEL-FARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

Package of Economic Measures for J&k

1860. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared to package of economic measures for Jammu and Kashmir so as to restore confidence amongst the people of Kashmir and a ground for restoration of a democratic Government for the State; (b) if so, the details therefor indicating the investment to be made, the number of job opportunities to be generated, the number, nature and capacity of industries to be set up and the agricultural activity to be undertaken; and

(c) the progress so far made in the implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MIN-ISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). To alleviate the sufferings of the people due to present disturbed conditions in the State certain measures have been taken to assist the persons engaged in the traditional economic activities in the Valley. A Statement containing the main features is given below:

STATEMENT

The main occupation involving about half of the working force in the State is Agriculture. With a view to sustaining some of the traditional activities, marketing of apples and other fruits/produce were organised by the Government and figures indicate that the sale outside the State was higher being 181,459 M.T. between July to November, 1990 as against the sale of only 162450 M.T. during the corresponding period of the previous year. These sale ensured reasonable returns to the producers.

Similarly, to assist and sustain the artisans producing traditional handicrafts who had been selling them ir, the Valley as distinct from regular sale outlets through private traders, the State Handicrafts Corporation purchased handicrafts/goods worth Rs. 6 crores. 'Crafts-Mela have been organised . One is going on in Delhi and will take place in 9 other metropolitan cities. It is estimated that so far handicrafts worth Rs. 5 crores have been sold.

Efforts are in hand to enlarge employment opportunities. For this purpose, 2500, Persons are being recruited from the state for employment in B.S.F. Other employment