

(d) No pension has been stopped without notice to pensioners in the recent past.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Ballapal National Test Range**

518. SHRI LOKANATH  
CHOUDHURY:  
SHRIYASHWANTRAOPATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news report that appeared in Telegraph dated 4 December 1990 regarding shifting of the Baliapal National Test Range from Orissa to Sagar Island;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has evoked positive response from the Government of West Bengal; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VJOY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In the subsequent news report on 05 Dec. 1990 Chief Minister West Bengal was reported to have stated that he had made no promise to Chief Minister Orissa regarding setting up National Range at Sagar Islands. However, suitability of Sagar Island had been earlier considered by an Expert Team constituted by the Union Government. This site was not found suitable as it does not meet the essential technical and operational requirements.

#### **Action Against ULFA**

519. SHRI P. C. THOMAS:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRIYASHWANTRAOPATIL:  
SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI:  
SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA:  
SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA:  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY  
RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing terrorist activities of ULFA in Assam;

(b) if so, the number of persons murdered and value of property looted/money extorted by ULFA activists during last one year;

(c) the number of persons, if any, evacuated from Assam due to the threat of ULFA;

(d) whether ULFA activities are a part of the co-ordinated insurgency activities in the North East;

(e) if so, the steps taken by the government to meet the situation and to restore normalcy in the State;

(f) number of persons rendered homeless in Assam as a result of operation 'Bajrang'; and

(g) the number of ULFA activists killed/arrested and arms seized through operation Bajrang so far and the details of the area cleared and the areas yet to be cleared of the militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The Government are aware of the activities of ULFA terrorists in Assam.

(b) During 1990, 144 violent incidents involving 54 killings were attributed to ULFA. The reported amount of extorted money is about Rs. 2.5 crores.

(c) The Government did not evacuate any person from Assam. However, 20 officials and members of families of M/s. Doomdooma Tea Co., and 23 executives and family members of M/s. Brook Bond and Lipton had left Assam because of the fear of ULFA, according to the information sent on behalf of tea companies.

(d) ULFA had developed nexus with other insurgent groups of the North East such as National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA) of Manipur. In May, 1990, some insurgent groups of North East floated the

so-called Indo-Burma Revolutionary Front (BIRF).

(e) and (f). The entire State of Assam was declared as a 'disturbed area' under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958. The ULFA and the NSCN were declared as 'unlawful associations' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. A coordinated action involving the Army, the paramilitary forces and the police was launched. Some persons had temporarily left their homes and accommodated in the temporary camps. They have since returned to their homes.

(g) In operation Bajrang 3 ULFA activists have been killed. As on 28th December, 1990 the army apprehended 534 persons and made recovery of weapons/explosives as below:-

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Non-standard pattern weapons Weapons (NSP)	253
Pistols	5
Revolvers	2
Anti personnel mine	1
Hand grenades	8
Explosives (in Kg.)	120
IEDs	4

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It is not possible to identify specific areas that can be classified as having been cleared of the militants.

[*Translation*]

**Expansion of Ranibagh Unit of HMT  
Limited**

520. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of Ranibagh unit of H.M.T. Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether it has since been approved; and