

(c) whether Government propose to conduct such experiments in other States also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). The State Government has been carrying out cloud seeding operations in different areas of Gujarat since middle of July, 1986. However, the results have not been very encouraging.

(c) and (d). The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, is conducting experiments in artificial rain making in certain areas of Maharashtra as a research project.

Steps to Control Pollution Caused by Stone Crushing Units in the Capital

*400. SHRI P. M. SAYEED :
SHRI AMITABH
BACHCHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of stone-crushing units in the capital and their location;

(b) whether any study has been made about the nature and extent of pollution caused by these units and its effects on human life and if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether dust concentration caused by these units is within the limits prescribed by the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of water Pollution and if not, how much does it exceed;

(d) whether any decision was taken for their removal because of environmental pollution and if so, when and the reasons for its non-implementation; and

(e) whether it is proposed to shift these units now ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) There are 110

stone crushing units located in Lal Kuan, Rajokari, Jaunapur, Kishangarh, Bhatti Mines, Anand Parbat and Rangpuri

(b) A study has been conducted to ascertain the dust levels from these units. The results of the study indicated high levels of dust concentration in the vicinity of the stone crushers. No systematic study on the health effects has been done. However, through medical examinations, cases of tuberculosis, bronchitis and such other respiratory diseases have been reported.

(c) No Sir; the dust concentration exceeds more than 20 times the permissible limits proper as controls are not adopted.

(d) and (e). It has been decided in January 1986 that the stone crushers close to the road leading to Suraj Kund, will be shifted, and action has been initiated for acquisition of land for shifting the Units.

Projects Pending Clearance

*401. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have been taken in pursuance of Prime Minister's statements in Calcutta on 1 July, 1986 about clearance of the pending/projects of West Bengal and;

(b) the details of proposals/projects cleared as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Further action in pursuance of Prime Minister's statement in Calcutta on July 1st, 1986, will be taken during the next few months.

Recruitment of Jawans

*402. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) brief particulars of various schemes for recruitment of jawans for the Army;

(b) whether Government are aware of allegation of malpractices in the recruitment of jawans;

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that the recruitment of jawans is as broad based as possible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) to (d). The general system of recruitment of Jawans for the Army is by selection of suitable recruits out of candidates who physically report to the 12 Zonal Recruiting Offices and 58 Branch Recruiting Offices. Recruitment is also done by undertaking tours and rallies at various places. The Selection Boards conduct the selection of recruits after screening for physical, educational and medical standards through various tests.

2. The number of candidates reporting for recruitment far exceeds the number of vacancies available. The time taken for screening is also considerable. In view of this a new system of calling for applications from the intending candidates has been introduced on an experimental basis at Zonal Recruiting Centres at Ambala and Madras on 1.1.1986. The applications are analysed and taking into account the recruiting demand a cut off line in terms of minimum acceptable standards based on education, physical standards, achievements in sports etc., is decided by the Selection Board. The applicants satisfying minimum acceptable standards are called for further screening for selection through various tests.

3. In both the systems, medical examination is now conducted at the initial stage itself before other tests.

4. In order to check malpractices in recruitment, a number of steps have been taken. Among them are :

(a) the recruitment is now supervised by a Board of officers;

(b) recruitment is being done through recruiting tours only, as far as possible;

(c) Candidates are permitted to appear only before the BRO covering their Districts of domicile;

(d) The system of sponsorship of candidates has been totally stopped;

(e) Candidates are now required to bring two copies of passport size photographs so that they can be identified at various stages of enrolment;

(f) Every BRO holds an enquiry day in the form of an open sammelan to answer queries about enrolment;

(g) Identify of individuals as well as documents are checked on arrival of recruits at the training centres to detect cases of bogus recruitment, if any, and handover such cases to the civil police for taking necessary action;

(h) Headquarters Commanders have been advised to liaise with Civil administration of the States in regard to cases of corruption and touting;

5. It has been the consistent policy of the Government since independence to make recruitment for the Army broad based and select the best candidates irrespective of caste, creed, religion or region.

Manufacture of Computers by Public and Private Sector Units

*403. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :