

society. So, we want to train them; we are training them; we are helping them; we are giving appliances to them. Recently, we have added more equipment kits for these people so that they can work and they can have some self-employment.

[Translation]

SHRI D.P. YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, social inequality and socio-economic disparity are two different things. It is not possible to eradicate both of them at the same time to solve the problem. Will the hon. Minister tell us as to what are the evils in social inequalities which are proving impediments in the way of removing economic disparity. What are their parameters and main features ? Has the Government conducted any study in this regard and what inequalities are proving a bottleneck in removing the economic disparities from the society ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the removal of social inequality has been the policy of the Congress Government since independence and this question was one of the major issued in our struggle of independence. It is felt that economic disparity is the cause of social inequality. There will be no social inequality the moment economic disparity is removed. Our programmes for the people of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes are, therefore, the steps taken in the direction of removing economic disparity. Social inequality will be removed only by bridging up the gap between the rich and the poor.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : One very big disadvantage is being felt by a section of the SC and ST people that they are not treated as SC and ST in a particular State at present although they were SC and ST in some other State 10, 15, 20 years ago. I had drawn this attention to Madam for a number of times. What have you done in that field ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : I have already stated that this problem is arising in every State. A particular person is a SC and ST person in one State and in

another State he is not. So, this problem is arising. But we have to look into its causes.

[Translation]

Training of IAS Officers in USA

*217. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the various programmes under which IAS officers are drafted for training in USA;

(b) since when the training of IAS Officers under these programmes was started; and

(c) whether before selection of these programmes Government verified the antecedents of the institutions/agencies organising these training programmes to ensure that those institutions/agencies had no links with any intelligence or spying agencies ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Name of the course

1. Edward S. Mason Programme in Public Policy and Management at Harvard University, USA (1 year) 1957
2. Fellows' Programme at the Centre for International Affairs, USA (1 year) 1959
3. Parvin Fellows Programme at Princeton University, USA (1 year) 1960
4. IMF (Short term) Course, Washington, USA (12 weeks) 1964
5. Hubert Humphrey North-South Fellowship, USA (1 year) 1978
6. Post Graduate Programme (Economics), Boston University, USA 1980

7. Robert McNamara / Fellowship-
Economic Development Institute,
World Bank, USA (1 year) 1983
8. Programme on Public Enterprises
Policy and Management at Harvard
Institute for International Develop-
ment, USA (short-term 9 to 12 weeks)
1984
9. Training of Senior Administrators
at Harvard, MIT and Carnegi Mellon,
USA (Short-term 6 to 13 weeks)
1987

(c) These programmes and courses are offered by prestigious universities of international repute. Government have no reason to suspect the integrity of these institutions.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Outlay of Annual Plan of West Bengal Government

*202. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the outlay of the annual plan for 1988-89 as submitted by the West Bengal Government and as approved by the Planning Commission; and

(b) the reasons for slashing it, if any, when the State is in the grip of acute unemployment and Gorkhaland stir which is adversely hitting the State's economy particularly in the North Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) The Government of West Bengal had proposed an outlay of Rs. 950.89 crores for the Annual Plan 1988-89. An outlay of Rs. 951 crores was agreed to during the Annual Plan discussions between Deputy Chairman-cum-Minister of Planning and Chief Minister, West Bengal, held in January, 1988.

(b) The proposed outlay was accepted in full.

[Translation]

Formation of Special Commando Division by Pakistan

*203. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Pakistan has formed a Special Commando Division to drive out Indian Soldiers from Siachen glacier;

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

(c) the steps taken or being taken by Government to counter this threat ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) Government have seen media reports but have no confirmed information regarding Pakistan having formed a special Commando Division for development in the Siachen Glacier area.

(b) and (c). Government keep a constant watch on all developments which have a bearing on the security of the Siachen Glacier area and take appropriate measures from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

[English]

Nuclear Plant Building by Pakistan

*205. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Indian Express dated 11 January, 1988 under the caption "Pak building second N-Plant"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS