

[Translation]

Talks Regarding Darjeeling Hill Area

*10. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the outcome of the talks held by him with the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the GNLFF leader during the last week of June to resolve the problem of Darjeeling hill area ;

(b) the issues on which agreement was reached and the issues which remained unresolved and the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to sort out the unresolved issues to bring normalcy in the area ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

In another round of talks on 25th July 1988 the Chief Minister West Bengal, Shri Jyoti Basu and GNLFF President, Shri Subash Ghising met in Delhi at the residence of Union Home Minister, Shri Buta Singh to arrive at a negotiated settlement of the problem of the Darjeeling Hill areas. The meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere and the talks ended in complete understanding between both the parties over the formation of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council. Various issues raised by Shri Ghising were discussed at this tripartite meeting. The final agreement, which was reached in principle, will be signed at Calcutta at a later date. The three participants at the meeting expressed their sense of deep gratitude to the Prime Minister for his help and cooperation in finding a peaceful and negotiated solution to this problem. This round of talks followed an earlier tripartite meeting held in New Delhi on 29th June 1988.

[English]

Inclusion of Areas of Social Concern in 20-Point Programme

*11. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME

IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scope of 20-Point Programme has been broadened to bring within its ambit major areas of social concern ;

(b) if so, what are such areas that have been included in the 20-Point Programme ; and

(c) whether some of the other important goals regarding agricultural production and productivity are also proposed to be included ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 20-Point Programme-86 has broadened its coverage to bring within its ambit a number of major areas of social concern such as increase in food production, clean drinking water, health facilities, acceptance of family planning, expansion of education, equality for women, justice to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, new opportunities for youth, housing for the under-privileged sections of the society, improvement of slums, protection of environment and responsive administration.

(c) The goals regarding agricultural production and productivity are already included in Point No. 2 (Strategy for Rainfed Agriculture) and Point No. 4 (Bigger Harvests) of TPP-1986.

Diversion of Funds for Hill Development

*12. SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH :

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any reports that some States have diverted the funds allotted for hill development, agriculture and rural development and anti-poverty programmes ;

(b) if so, the names of the States and

for what purpose these funds have been diverted ;

(c) whether any steps have been taken for penalising the State which have diverted Central funds earmarked for specific purpose in the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

News Item Captioned 'Pak Test Fires Delhi, Bombay Range Missile'

*13. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Pak test fires Delhi, Bombay range missile" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 25 May, 1988 stating inter-alia that Pakistan has test-fired a missile capable of carrying a nuclear weapon which can reach New Delhi and Bombay ;

(b) whether it has been also stated that the missile is of 'home design' but produced with the help of Chinese experts ; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have seen the press report.

(c) A constant watch is being maintained on all developments which have a bearing on our national security and appropriate measures are taken from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

Shooting Down of Iranian Aircraft

*14. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has lodged any protest with the US Government for shooting down an Iranian civilian aircraft in which Indians also became victims ;

(b) whether India has asked the US Government to compensate the families of the Indian victims ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the reaction of US Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) India has deplored this incident and called upon the US Government to investigate into the circumstances that led to it.

(b) to (d). The US Government has offered compensation to the victims of this tragedy.

Documents Published in the Hindu Regarding Alleged Payment of Commissions in Howitzer Deal

*15. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to "The Hindu" of June 22, 1988 publishing documents regarding alleged payment of commissions in Howitzer deal ;

(b) if so, whether Government have made inquiry into the documents published in "The Hindu" ;

(c) if so, the findings of the inquiry ; and

(d) the action taken against those found guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) to (d). The Government has seen the material published in 'The Hindu' dated 22nd June, 1988 purporting to relate to agreements concluded by M/s. Bofors with certain foreign and Indian firms and the alleged payments made by them to these