

the Sixth Five Year Plan period onwards, but on a sporadic and not very regular basis. It is felt that these evaluations are limited in their scope and hence do not point to any reliable conclusions.

Sealing of International Borders with Pakistan

*520. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Punjab has urged the Centre to take immediate steps to effectively seal the international borders with Pakistan so as to strike at the operational roots of disruptionist elements; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereon and by what time the Pakistan borders will be sealed ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). In this connection, the Government of India had drawn the attention of the State Government of Punjab to the increase in the activities of extremist elements in Punjab during November, 1985. In response to this, the Govt. of Punjab requested the Govt. of India to seal the border effectively. In this connection, it may be pointed out that the Govt. of India had already taken adequate measures to guard effectively the Indo-Pakistan border by deploying additional companies of BSF and by intensifying patrolling etc. These forces have been equipped with more sophisticated equipment. It will be appreciated that the task of effective surveillance of the border is of continuing nature.

Purchase of Blankets for Army

*523. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of firms which were given orders by the Ministry of Defence for the supply of woollen blankets for the army since 1984;

(b) the terms and conditions fixed for the purchase of these blankets; and

(c) the standard and quality fixed for these blankets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) 25 firms were given orders by the Ministry of Defence for the supply of barrack blankets type A for the Army in 1985. No such orders were placed in 1984.

(b) and (c). A statement on the terms and conditions, and the standard and quality fixed for these blankets, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library. See No. LT-2532/86]

Endangered Species of Birds

*525. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) which are the endangered species of birds in India mainly pheasants;

(b) what is the estimated number of each species;

(c) the steps being taken to protect and breed them in captivity; and

(d) the incentives being given to private breeders, if any, in the country ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) The endangered species of birds including pheasants which feature under Schedule I of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 are as per the list indicated in the attached Statement-I.

(b) No detailed survey of the population of endangered birds has been carried out so far on a country-wide basis. The population of some highly endangered species has been estimated and reported as follows :—

Siberian White crane migrating to India in winter—approximately—37 reported this year.

Black necked crane migrating to Ladakh in summer—7 in 1983.

•Great Indian Bustard—over 1000.

(c) A statement is attached (Statement-II).

(d) Financial assistance is proposed to be provided to a leading private pheasant