

3 MAY, 2000

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Government are aware of certain readjustments and reinforcements of Pakistani troops on the Line of Control. Movement of certain reserve formations from their permanent locations has also been reported. Patrolling by our troops along the Line of Control continues as before.

Constant vigil is maintained on the border and all appropriate measures have been taken to thwart any attempt of misadventure on the part of our adversaries.

Commissioning of INS Brahmaputra

3970. SHRI SHANKAR ROYCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reasons for excessive delay in building and Commissioning the warship INS Brahmaputra at the Garden Reach Shipbuilding and Engineering (GRSE) Works have been investigated and analysed;

(b) if so, the factors which have been established as responsible for the delay; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such delays in future ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The lack of adequate infrastructure at the time of placement of the order; attempt to achieve a very high degree of indigenisation, delay in receipt of main weapon system from the foreign source because of internal problems there, and low productivity owing to a number of factors, have been identified as the contributing factors for the delay;

(c) As a measure of corrective action, the Company has undertaken improvement of infrastructure including modification and lengthening of the slipway and computerisation to build frigates at a faster pace. The factors relating to low productivity have been gone into and remedial action has been taken, an important ingredient of which is the signing of a wage agreement in January 2000 incorporating productivity norms.