

in the regions in consultation/coordination with the Ministry of Human Resource Development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (d) The following numbers of officers were inducted in the Army and the Air Force during the last three years from the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar:

| Year | Army | Air Force |
|------------|---|---|
| (i) 1993 | 337 (U.P.) 135 (Haryana) 53 (Bihar) | 89 (U.P.) 13 (Haryana) 30 (Bihar) |
| (ii) 1994 | 319 (U.P.) 142 (Haryana) 54 (Bihar) | 86 (U.P.) 15 (Haryana) 14 (Bihar) |
| (iii) 1995 | 319 (U.P.) 133 (Haryana) 60 (Bihar) | 69 (U.P.) 34 (Haryana) 24 (Bihar) |

No region-wise or State-wise data are maintained in respect of officers inducted in the Navy. In the Army and the Air Force no region-wise data are maintained.

There are only training institutions in the Armed Forces and not Military Colleges. Armed Forces training institutions train young officers hailing from any part of the country. Since they are only training institutions, their location in any region may not influence intake of officers from that region. The selection of officers in the Armed Forces depends on their performance in the written test, Selection Board interview etc. and for this reason, the intake of officers from any State or region may vary from year to year.

Armed Forces training institutions are opened as and when considered necessary in any part of the country, based on the assessment by services headquarters and the Ministry of Defence.

Change in tender conditions for Basic Telephone Services

2009. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had

changed the tender conditions since bidding was over for Basic Telecom Services in some circles;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps proposed to examine the bidding process of telecom sector; and

(d) whether it is a fact that no transparency has been introduced in 1996-97 in the Telecom Bidding Procedures?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Elaborate guidelines already exist for examining the tenders in the telecom sector.

(d) Standardised bidding procedures have been adopted to ensure transparency

Exemption from compulsory use of Jute bag packing

2010. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SAIFULLA:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA
NAHATA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Cement Producers' Association have sought exemption from compulsory use of Jute bag packing for cement industry;

(b) the reasons for seeking exemptions;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) whether Government propose to amend the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in the Packaging Commodities) Act, 1995; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The reasons advanced by the Andhra Pradesh Cement Producers Associations, *inter-alia* are that the packing in Jute bage is resulting in seepage loss, degradation, adulteration, dust pollution, etc. It is also mentioned that the price of Cement Gunny Bags is costlier than the HDPE/Paper Bags. Their request has been placed before the Standing Advisory Committee set up by the

Government in terms of Section 4 (1) of the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities Act, 1907). (d) No Sir.

Visit of Prime Minister to International Conferences

2011. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited/attended international conferences abroad during the last 2-3 months;

(b) if so, the details of his discussions indicating with which countries India signed Agreements on matters of common interest and cooperation; and

(c) whether Prime Minister also invited Heads of other countries with whom he held discussions, to visit India during our 50th year of Independence; if so, the response thereto so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes Sir. The Prime Minister attended the G-15 Summit at Harare and World Food Summit in Rome.

(b) During his visit to Harare, the Prime Minister had meetings with the President of Egypt, Prime Minister of Malaysia and Prime Minister of Senegal. They reviewed bilateral relations and discussed issues of international interest. During the retreat, Prime Minister also had informal meetings with leaders of other G-15 countries.

Separate Memorandums of Understanding were concluded with Zimbabwe and Senegal on the setting up of an Entrepreneurship Development and Small Scale Industries Development Centre respectively with Indian assistance. An agreement was also concluded between FICCI and ASSOCHAM jointly with Zimbabwean National Chamber of Commerce on the establishment of a Joint Business Council between India and Zimbabwe. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries on business cooperation.

During his visit to Rome, the Prime Minister held discussions with the President

of Indonesia, Prime Minister of Italy, Vice President of Iraq, President of Cyprus, Prime Minister of China, First Vice President of Iran, Prime Minister of Nepal, President of Cuba, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and President of Afghanistan.

(c) The Prime Minister invited Prime Minister of Senegal to visit India in early 1997. President of Cuba was also extended an invitation to visit India. However, these invitations were not in the context of the celebrations of 50 years of India's Independence.

Action Plan for construction of by passes in Gujarat

2012. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan for providing by-passes for the major cities in Gujarat by the end of this century;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have earmarked funds for this purpose for the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the funds earmarked are sufficient to provide the requisite number of by-passes in the State; and

(f) if not, the remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (f) There is no provision of by-passes in the State of Gujarat during the 8th Five Year Plan (1992—97). The 9th (1997—2002) Five Year Plan is yet to be formulated.

Recognition to the Saharwi Arab Democratic Republic

2013. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the reasons for resiling from the stand of recognition to the Saharwi Arab Democratic Republic?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): There has been no change in the position of India's