

liberalisation, greater involvement of our missions abroad, invitation to foreign delegations including service chiefs, participation in defence exhibitions, use of marketing skills and infrastructure of trading houses, and publication of a catalogue of defence equipment.

(b) The products sold in the country include arms, ammunition and stores to police forces, aircraft and spare parts, electronic components and communications equipment, broadcasting equipment, earthmoving equipment, offshore installations etc. The value of sales in the domestic market and of exports has been as under:

	Value of domestic sale	Value of exports (including deemed export)
	(Rs. in crores)	
1992-93	4770.02	261.31
1993-94	4984.11	558.03
1994-95 (provisional)	5762.90	545.87

(c) Exports have generally been of ammunition to countries in South East Asia, communications equipment and aviation items to countries in Africa, the Middle East and South America and offset jobs and components to manufacturers in developed countries.

(d) Ordnance Factory Board has recently decided to sell the Jonga Vehicle also in the civil market. The response has been extremely encouraging. Finalisation of dealers is in hand. The vehicle is expected to be launched for sale in the second half of this year.

Death of army officials due to mine blast in Uri, Kashmir

6345. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an army Brigadier and 9 other ranks were killed in two mine blasts outside the border town of Uri in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to avoid such blasts in future;

(c) whether Government will provide financial assistance to the kith and kin of those killed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) On 20 Mar. 95, there were two blasts of Improvised Explosion Devices (IED) on a road near the Line of Control (LC) in Uri sector of Jammu and Kashmir. As a result of these blasts, one Brigadier and two civilians were killed and two Army Officers, five Army Other Ranks and one BSF Assistant Commandant were injured.

(b) Standing Operating Procedures and special drills have been laid down to minimise casualties to personnel operating in counter militancy/insurgency environment. These are being followed.

(c) and (d) Casualties occurring during counter militancy/insurgency operations are treated as battle casualties and the victims/next of kins are entitled to liberalised pensionary awards as also some other benefits declared by the Government of India including benefit of compassionate employment at par with war casualties. In addition, the State Government of J&K also pays an ex-gratia amount to the next of kins of personnel killed during the -operations against militants.

Joint exercises held by Indian Navy

6346. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRI KANT RAM-
CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent and level of Indian Navy's cooperation with other countries;

(b) the countries with which the Indian Navy held joint exercises during the last year;

(c) what is the benefit which accrued to our Navy by the joint exercises; and

(d) what is being done to encourage joint cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) During the year 1994, Indian Navy held Joint Naval exercises with Indonesia, Russia, Singapore and Malaysia. The Present extent and level of Indian Navy's cooperation with the Navies of other countries is considered adequate. Joint exercises promote confidence building, provide exposure to the latest technologies and facilitate exchange of views on professional matters. Joint cooperation with friendly countries is an on-going process and the position is reviewed from time to time.

New Management Strategy in Indian Navy

6347. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the New Management Strategy of the Indian Navy;

(b) what is new in the NMS;

(c) when the NMS was introduced in the Indian Navy;

(d) what perceptible benefits did the NMS give over the earlier pattern; and

(e) by when the success or failure of NMS will be evaluated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The thrust of the New Management Strategy (NMS) introduced in the Indian Navy provides for the Service Chief exercising enhanced financial powers in respect of revenue

expenditure in consultation with a Financial Officer within the laid down guidelines. Phase-I of the NMS delegating new financial powers to the dockyards along with placement of Financial Advisor was introduced on 1.12.93. In Phase-II approved in November, 1994 the NMS has been extended to cover procurement for the Logistics branch.

(d) The introduction of NMS resulted in functional efficiency at various levels.

(e) It has been decided to introduce NMS in phases on an experimental basis. The success or failure of NMS can be evaluated after its full implementation when the concept stabilises and effectiveness reviewed.

Upgradation of MIG-21 BIS aircraft

6348. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upgradation of the MIG-21 BIS aircraft is being done;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) to what extent the Russian agencies are involved in the upgradation project;

(d) by when the upgraded MIG-21 BIS aircrafts will be operationally available; and

(e) what are the total funds required for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e) The Government have decided to upgrade MIG-21 BIS aircraft in association with Russian agencies. A letter of intent has been issued in March 1994 nominating Mikoyan Design Bureau as the prime contractors for design, development and light test. The upgraded version is to be productionised at HAL. Various systems/sub-systems proposed to be included in the upgraded package have been indentified and the final system