

North-Eastern Command, the number of flights has been increased from 200 to 364 so that the jawans can come home more frequently. These are a few measures which, I am sure, will have a positive impact on the morale of our Armed Forces.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: For the Indian Navy, Visakhapatnam is one of the important bases. Sir, a few months back, it was decided by the Group of Ministers that the Hindustan Shipyard should be used for manufacture of sophisticated warships for the Indian Navy. It is almost eight or nine months now since the decision has been taken, but the Hindustan Shipyard has not been brought under the Ministry of Defence. The employees are demoralised, concerned and worried over it. I want to know from the hon. Defence Minister when it is going to take place. I understand that it will be taken up before the Cabinet shortly. But I want a categorical commitment in the House as to when it is going to take place.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): Sir, I can understand the anxiety of the hon. Member about the Hindustan Shipyard at Vizag. After detailed discussions with the Ministry of Shipping, the Ministry of Defence and the Indian Navy, the Government has taken a decision to handover the Hindustan Shipyard, which is, at present, under the Ministry of Shipping, to hand it over to the Ministry of Defence. That process is going on, and I am sure that at the earliest a final decision will be taken. The Ministry of Shipping is in the process of finalising a Cabinet Note. As soon as it is cleared, we will take a decision.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : माननीय सभापति जी, जैसे मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि डिफेंस में ऑफिसर्स की बहुत shortage है, नेवी, एयर फोर्स और आर्मी में ऑफिसर्स की बहुत shortage है, इसलिए उनको ये बहुत incentives देते हैं। क्या मंत्री जी यह बताएंगे कि पहले जो लोग शॉर्ट सर्विस कमीशन पूरा कर लेते थे, उनको IAS और IPS में जाने के लिए कुछ सहूलियतें दी जाती थीं, क्या आप उसको revive करने की कोशिश करेंगे, जिससे कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा ऑफिसर्स आर्मी में आएँ?

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, in principle, the approval has been given to improve the conditions of service in the Short Service Commission, and I am sure that they will be implemented. Amongst that, there are a number of measures which also give avenues to the serving officers to get into an educational qualification degree, which will be, probably, funded by the Ministry. These have been approved, in principle, and I hope that...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : पहले ये डिफेंस ऑफिसर्स, IAS और IPS में जाते थे, वहां लिए जाते थे। क्या गवर्नमेंट उस सिस्टम को revive करने की कोशिश करेगी ताकि वे डिफेंस से वहां जा सकें?

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: We will definitely look into it.

Loss of original map of Nagaland

*226. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the original map of Nagaland prepared by the Geological Survey of India has been lost by the custodians entrusted with the same, as reported in the media;

(b) if so, the details and the circumstances thereof;

(c) whether this loss of map would adversely affect the negotiations between the States of Assam and Nagaland, between whom there is already an on going border dispute; and

(d) what action has been taken/proposed to be taken against the persons/agency responsible for the loss?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) Government of Nagaland has submitted certain documents/maps in September, 1979 to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) with respect to the boundary dispute with Assam. The MHA had referred these documents/maps to the Government of Assam for their response in October 1979, which was duly acknowledged by that State Government. The Government of Assam has reported that these documents are not traceable. Similar submission has been made by the Government of Assam before the Local Commission set up by the Supreme Court of India for identification of boundaries of states of Assam-Nagaland and also Assam-Arunachal Pradesh.

(c) and (d) The Local Commission in its sitting on September 2, 2008 has directed the Government of Nagaland to reconstruct the records after obtaining maps from Survey of India, National Archives of India and other agencies with the assistance of MHA etc. Pursuant to the directions of the Local Commission, 53 maps have been obtained from National Archives of India and made available to the Government of Nagaland. The National Library at Kolkata and Assam State Archives, through Government of Assam, have also been requested to make available the requisite information/records to the Government of Nagaland.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have two supplementary questions and some clarifications from the hon. Minister in-charge of Home Affairs. Sir, the answer to part (a) of Q. No. 226 is 'yes', though in the reply the loss of the documents has been replaced by the word 'untraceable' which is a very decent word. But, the fact always remains the fact. Whether it is untraceable or it is lost, but the documents have been lost.

Sir, my first supplementary is, when were the maps of Nagaland, along with the forwarding letters and annexures lost? Sir, my second supplementary is, whether...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One at a time, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... One at a time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, according to the available records, the Government of Nagaland had submitted its comments to the Ministry of Home Affairs and submitted a report enclosing certain documents/maps in September 1979. The comments, along with the original annexures received from the Government of Nagaland, were referred to the Government of Assam in September/October, 1979. The Government of Assam has informed us that the

documents that were sent to them were not traceable, and they have made a similar submission to the Supreme Court of India. The Government of India, as far as I am able to gather, did not keep a copy of what was received by them, and sent the whole thing, in original, to the Government of Assam in September/October, 1979.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, since the documents have been lost, and for the last 28 years, the State of Nagaland have been pursuing the Government of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Government of Assam to return the documents to the State of Nagaland.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Formulation of land reforms policy

*224. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate National Land Reforms Policy and to set up a National Land Reforms Council to facilitate land reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the said policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the respective States as provided under Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of an advisory and coordinating nature. However, implementation of Land Reforms Programmes is reviewed from time to time at various fora including Conferences of Revenue Ministers and Revenue Secretaries of the States/UTs organized by the Ministry of Rural Development. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested from time to time for effective implementation of land reform programmes/schemes. The subject matter has, however, been considered at the highest level. In order to get comprehensive recommendations on the matter, it had been decided to constitute the following:—

(i) A “Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms” under the chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development.

(ii) A “National Council for Land Reforms” under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

The composition, terms of reference, *etc.* of the Committee and the Council were notified in the Official Gazette on 9th January, 2008. A copy of the Resolution dated 9th January, 2008 is enclosed: (*see below*) The Committee is to submit its report within one year from the date of its