possibility of introducing an alternate method of recruitment to PS through Limited Competitive Examination. Further, in the matter of appointment by promotion, the Government has also initiated a proposal to prepare the Select List one year in advance to fill up the vacancies when they occur.

Purpose of Malabar exercises

30. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the purpose of Malabar exercises;

(b) whether one of the purposes of such exercises is to test interoperability of forces; and

(c) whether Indian Defence doctrine provides for such bilateral interoperability?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The objective of conducting Malabar exercises with US Navy is to promote mutual cooperation and gain from the experience of the other side, especially in the field of advanced technology available with them. It also facilitates interoperability in times of need in situations like disaster management, etc. Indian Navy is being permitted to constructively engage with the foreign navies through such exercises and coordinated patrolling.

Blacklisting of companies from supplying defence equipments

31. SHRI DHARAMPAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has in the past banned or blacklisted companies from supplying defence equipment if implicated in corruption cases internationally;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that M/s BAE Systems has been implicated by British Government and the US Government and whether Government would blacklist this company; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Whenever allegations of corruption are received against companies supplying defence equipments to the Government, appropriate action taken. Adequate safeguards exist in Defence Procurement Procedure to ensure that procurements are free from corruption.

In respect of major purchases including those from M/s BAE Systems, there is provision under Defence Procurement Procedure 2006 to obtain a declaration that no previous transgression occurred in the last three years immediately before signing of the Integrity Pact with any other company in any country that could justify bidder’s exclusion from the tender process.

Steps to prevent recurrence of terrorist attacks

32. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

1Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.