

Under Government of India's New Exploration Licensing Policy of 2002, several blocks were awarded to a consortium of ONGC, which is a blatant violation of article 371-A. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to respect the provisions of article 371-A in letter and spirit. Thank you.

**Need to take measures to ensure adequate training and preparedness
by Indian players in Commonwealth Games 2010**

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL (Maharashtra): Sir, what is the level of preparedness of the Indian players who will be participating in the Commonwealth Games? Are there adequate measures and facilities in place for ensuring adequate training and practice so that India performs well in the Commonwealth Games? The Government should ensure that there would not be lack of financial resources for the participants of the country who are likely to take part in various events being organized during the Commonwealth Games. Otherwise, the efforts being made by the players as well as Government shall go waste. The deficiency shall not only demotivate players but also bring down the dignity and prestige of the country. The Government should, therefore, make all-out efforts to train our players so that they give out their best performance in the Commonwealth Games.

Concern over purchase of arms through foreign military sales route

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, in reply to Unstarred Question No.1046 dated 4.8.2010, the hon. Minister of Defence has said, "Some of the requirements of the Armed Forces have been met by procurements through Foreign Military Sales Procedure of the U.S. Government. In these non-tender purchases, the U.S. Government procures the equipments on behalf of the Indian Government from its military companies and takes a commission for the services rendered through Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency". Since 2002, purchases of equipments through this route ran into several billion dollars. Since the purchases are being made by the U.S. Government from the U.S. military companies, it is natural that the U.S. Government will serve the interests of the U.S. firms. But, what is the source of money being paid by Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency? Is it the Government of India for engaging third party in defence deals or is it the U.S. military firms for negotiating the defence deals in their favour? It is learnt that Army Chief General has written to the Defence Minister pointing out the Army's trouble with maintenance of a dozen weapon-loading radars bought from the U.S. firm Raytheon and said that at times two-thirds of the radars have been in want of maintenance.

Sir, I want to ask from the Government: Why is India procuring arms through Foreign Military Sales Procedure of the U.S. Government and what is the source of money being paid by Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency?

**Demand to use NREGS funds to provide relief measures to the
drought affected people in West Bengal**

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, a serious crisis situation has emerged in