

permits and 556 driving licenses were suspended.

(xiii) All vehicles owned by Governmental and public Sector agencies are checked by the Road Safety Inspector of the Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration, in their offices for ascertaining their standard of maintenance. The driving licenses and conductors licenses are also checked likewise. Deficiencies noticed are reported to these agencies and time bound programmes laid down for remedying the same.

Foreign Tourists in Sikkim

672. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign tourist traffic in Sikkim is controlled by the West Bengal Government causing great financial loss to the Sikkim Government;

(b) whether Government have received any proposal from the Sikkim Government to allow the control of this traffic by the Sikkim authorities; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to protect the financial interests of the Sikkim Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) The whole of Sikkim is a 'Protected Area under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1968. Entry of foreign nationals into protected areas, including Sikkim, is controlled by the Central Government and not by the Government of West Bengal. Calcutta is the international airport generally used by foreigners coming to Sikkim, and the usual entry points for Sikkim are Bagdogra and Siliguri, both in Darjeeling District of West Bengal. It is, therefore, for the sake of convenience of foreigners who have been permitted by the Central Govt.

to enter Sikkim that in addition to the Home Secretary, Government of Sikkim, the following officers were also authorised to issue protected area permits:

Under Secretary (Home), Govt. of West Bengal, Calcutta:

Foreigners Regional Registration Officer, Calcutta; Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling.

(b) and (c) proposal of the Govt. of Sikkim, to authorise their representative stationed in Siliguri to issue permits to foreigners cleared for proceeding to Sikkim, was approved by the Government of India. Formal orders have also been issued.

Pension to Army Personnel

673. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR;
SHRI S. W. DHABE;
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the army personnel retiring earlier do not get increase in their pension on subsequent revision of pension rates; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Retirement benefits of all Government servants including Army personnel are regulated under the rules in force at the time of their retirement. The liberalisations/revisions made in pension rules thereafter are generally not given retrospective effect as a matter of policy. However, following the rise in the cost of living, pensioners are granted relief, in addition to pension.

U.S. Military Personnel in Pakistan Border

674. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA;
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news reports appearing in a section of the press about the presence of US military personnel in Pakistan border in Rajasthan area;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have made any attempt to ascertain the facts of this report; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) Government have seen the press report to this effect. Available information, however, does not confirm the report.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Criminal cases against persons agitating against installation of PDF Government in Maharashtra

**675. SHRI S. W. DHABE;
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI;
DR. BHAI MAHAVIR;**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of criminal cases filed against the persons for agitating against the installation of former PDF Government in Maharashtra in July, 1978 and also agitating against the Ministers of that Government; and

(b) whether the criminal cases are still pending in different criminal courts and how many persons are involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Released Emergency Commissioned Officers

**676. SHRI SAWAI SINGH
SISODIA;**

**SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABI-
BULLAH;**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently reviewed the service records etc. of all the eligible released emergency commissioned officers who have been working as Administrative Officers in the N.C.C. with a view to making their services permanent;

(b) if so, what is the number of officers who have since been made permanent;

(c) whether these officers have been informed individually about their permanency; and

(d) what are the future prospects of these officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The question of grant of permanent commission to these officers is under consideration.

(d) The number of appointments of Majors, to be made available to these officers, is being increased by 100. Those selected for grant of permanent commission will be eligible to serve upto the age of 55 years without periodical extensions, as hitherto, and will also be entitled to pension, death-cum-retirement gratuity and other terminal benefits.

Memorandum regarding corruption charges against Shri P. S. Badal, Former Chief Minister of Punjab

**677. SHRI SAWAI SINGH
SISODIA;**

**SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABI-
BULLAH;**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from some