

[2 December, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

certificate issued by one of the authorities/persons authorised in this regard under the Pension Payment Instructions including responsible Government officers, head of the village Panchayat etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All pensioners sign such certificates with their Pension Disbursing Authorities. Thus, there is no discrimination.

### **Naming of Uttaranchal as Uttarakhand**

†17. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the people of Uttaranchal have been making a demand since the very inception of the State to change the name of the State as Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, whether State Government has sent any such proposal to the Centre; and

(c) the dates of sending such proposals by State Government and by when the Government are likely to take action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIK RAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) In April 2002 and June 2004, the Government of Uttaranchal forwarded proposals to change the name of the State from Uttaranchal to Uttarakhand. It is not possible to indicate at this stage the exact time frame within which the Government would take the action.

### **Social-economic development in Naxal-affected areas**

18. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRIDATTAMEGHE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had convened a meeting of top officers of naxal-affected States on the 5th August, 2004 on the security and socio-economic development in the naxal-affected areas;

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of States represented in the meeting;

(c) whether any agreement has reached in the meeting between the States and the Centre;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have agreed to make available money to these States for security and socio-economic development of the naxal-affected areas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The Union Home Secretary convened the 15th meeting of the Coordination Centre at New Delhi on 5th August, 2004. The representatives of the naxal affected States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh attended the meeting. Some of the major decisions taken in the said Meeting *inter-alia* included implementation of the operational action plans to undertake sustained intelligence driven well-coordinated anti-naxalite operations in naxal-affected States (except Andhra Pradesh where Peace Dialogue is underway), training of the State Police forces, undertaking specific measures by naxal-affected States to neutralize linkages between CPN (Maoist) and our naxal outfits, drawing up and implementation of action plans for removal of socio-cultural alienation of people in the affected areas, better utilization of the existing schemes such as Security Related Expenditure, Backward Districts Initiative, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and the Modernization of State Police Forces.

(e) to (f) Recognizing that the menace of naxalism is also to be inevitably tackled on the development front, the Ministry continues to focus attention of *the* State Governments on ensuring integrated development of the affected districts of the States. As a part of this Strategy, the Ministry has been advising the States to accord a higher priority in the annual plans to ensure integrated development of the naxal affected districts.

Besides financial assistance being provided by the Ministry to the affected States under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) and Police

Modernization (PM) schemes, the Planning Commission has included 55 naxal affected districts under the Backward Districts Initiative (BDI) component of their Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) so as to fill in the critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure in these areas. The scheme provides for an additionality of Rs. 15 crores per year per district for a period of 3 years starting from 2003-04. The Ministry of Rural Development has also earmarked Rs. 37.50 crores as an additional allocation to execute rural roads in the naxalite affected areas under the PMGSY.

### **Security to tourists visiting J & K**

19. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government to provide security to tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir during the current year; and

(b) the details to the steps the Union Government propose to take to ensure that both tourists and pilgrims visiting Jammu and Kashmir are safe from militancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The State Government of J&K has been taking security measures for the tourists visiting the State. Security Forces/J&K Police have all along been engaged in ensuring adequate area dominance and security at and around places of tourist interest and also the routes leading to tourist destinations. In addition, unobtrusive surveillance is being mounted at these places so as to deter terrorists from indulging in any violence.

Similar arrangements are being made to provide security to the pilgrims going to Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine at Katra and Shri Amarnathji. Besides, strengthening the security set-up around Katra town and route leading to the holy cave, adequate security arrangements have also been made for the pilgrims coming from various parts of the country by train or road up to the holy place.

Union Government provides necessary support to the State Government on the basis of their request. Government also continuously monitors the security situation.