

(b) The Soviet President assured our President that Soviet leaders were looking into the matter. The Soviet Union have since indicated to us that their latest maps have started showing the India-China border with broken lines indicating that they do not regard the border as settled.

They have also informed us that they are going to publish a new map of India in the near future.

OIL EXPLORATION PROGRAMME FOR FOURTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

149. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY:

SHRI K. C. PANDA:

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:

SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has drawn up oil exploration programme for the Fourth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details of financial implications for the programme and the extent to which crude oil production in the country is likely to be increased when the programme is fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Yes.

(b) The total financial outlay and anticipated receipts during the Fourth Plan period are estimated at Rs. 355.90 crores and Rs. 275.74 crores respectively. When the programme is fully implemented, the production of ONGC is expected to be 5.5 million tonnes per annum during the last year of the Plan (1973-74), as against 3.09 million tonnes in 1968-69 on the eve of the 4th Plan period.

IRBM PROJECT IN CHINA

150. SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what information the Government have in regard to the IRBM project of China;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Bay of Bengal is likely to be the area for its intended first trial which is scheduled to take place very soon; and

(c) whether the implications of the Chinese advance in missiles have been

studied by Government and if so, what appropriate action has been undertaken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (c) Government are aware that China has developed ballistic missiles which have a range of about 2,000 miles, but there is no indication yet of their actual deployment. Though there are press reports regarding the possibility of China testing an IRBM in the Bay of Bengal, there is no authentic information on this. All developments having a bearing on our security are constantly kept under review. There is no change in the Government's policy regarding nuclear weapons, as explained in the House on a number of occasions.

WORLD BANK'S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NANGAL AND COCHIN FERTILIZER

151. SHRI J. S. TILAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank is going to offer any financial assistance in regard to the expansion of Nangal and Cochin Fertilizer Projects; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Nangal and Cochin Schemes are still under consideration of the World Bank for assistance.

विदेशी भाषाएं सीखने की सुविधायें

152. श्री राम सहाय : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विदेशी भाषा विद्यालय में विदेशी भाषायें सीखने के लिए जो सुविधायें दी गई हैं उनमें कितने सैनिकों और कर्मचारियों ने लाभ उठाया और पिछले तीन वर्षों में प्रत्येक ने कौन-कौन सी भाषा सीखी ?

†[FOREIGN LANGUAGES' LEARNING FACILITIES

152. SHRI RAM SAHAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the number of service personnel and employees who benefited themselves by the facilities provided for learning foreign languages at the School of Foreign Languages and the different languages learnt by each of them during the last three years?

†[] English translation.

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह महीडा) : विदेशी भाषाओं के स्कूलों द्वारा आयोजित विदेशी भाषाओं में विभिन्न पाठ्यक्रमों से 1967-68 और 1969 वर्षों में लाभ उठाने वाले भारत सरकार के सेवानिवृत्तों के तथा असैनिक सेनावर्ग की संख्या दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण संलग्न है।

विवरण

विदेशी भाषाओं के स्कूल द्वारा आयोजित विदेशी भाषाओं में विभिन्न पाठ्यक्रमों से लाभ उठाने वाले सेवानिवृत्तों के सेवानिवृत्तों और भारत सरकार के कर्मचारियों की संख्या।

	1967	1968	1969
अरबी	15	13	25
बर्मी	17	6	28
चीनी	67	111	55
फ्रांसीसी	69	71	99
जर्मन	10	36	31
जापानी	11	14	15
फारसी	15	14	15
रूसी	136	107	119
स्पेनिश	28	13	22
तिब्बती	20	16	26
भाषा इंडोनेशिया	—	—	7
कुल जोड़	388	401	442

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA): A statement indicating the number of service personnel and civilian employees of the Government of India, who benefited during the years 1967, 1968 and 1969 from the various courses in foreign languages conducted by the School of Foreign Languages is attached.

†[] English translation.

STATEMENT

Number of Service personnel and employees of the Government of India who benefited from the various courses in foreign languages conducted by the School of Foreign Languages.

	1967	1968	1969
Arabic	15	13	25
Burmese	17	6	28
Chinese	67	111	55
French	69	71	99
German	10	36	31
Japanese	11	14	15
Persian	15	14	15
Russian	136	107	119
Spanish	28	13	22
Tibetan	20	16	26
Bahasa Indonesia	7
TOTAL	388	401	442

BLINDNESS IN THE COUNTRY

153. SHRI K. C. PANDA:

SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment in regard to the rate and the causes of blindness in the country as compared to the Western countries like USA, UK and Russia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps that have been taken by Government during the last four years to check the percentage of blindness and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE ON THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) and (b) A few limited surveys indicate that there are about 4.5 million blind persons in the country. The percentage of blind persons vis-a-vis population of India, USA, and UK is as under—

India	0.9% or over.
U.S.A.	0.17%
U.K.	0.18%

The major causes of blindness are Cataract, Trachoma, Small-pox, Malnutrition, Hyper-tension etc.