

the Ministry of Defence. The land is yet to be acquired by the Government of Karnataka.

**Representation given by Nepal Sadhbhawana Party (A)**

3392. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government from the Nepal Sadhbhawana Party (A) pertaining to discrimination and oppression faced by the Madheshis people living in plains and Tarai of Nepal, who are called as people of Indian origin and denied recruitment in Royal Nepal Army, for recruitment in Indian Army and creation of Madhesish Regiment in the Indian Army; and

(b) the action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Government have received representation from the Nepal Sadhbhawana Party (A) for recruitment in the Indian Army and creation of Madhesish Regiment.

(b) As per the existing policy, no new Regiment is being raised on the basis of any class, creed and religion. However the Madheshis people living in the plains of Tarai of Nepal are eligible for recruitment in the existing Regiments of Gorkha Rifles subject to their meeting the requisite educational, physical, and medical standards and passing the recruitment tests.

**Use of IAF aircrafts by former PM and Ministers**

†3393. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether former Cabinet Ministers including former Prime Ministers have undertaken air-trips by IAF aircrafts during the period from 1st January, 2000 to 31st March, 2004 and till date;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of the trips undertaken by each of them separately;

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[17 May, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether some of the air trips so made have also been undertaken unofficially by them;

(d) if so, the details of year-wise dues of such unofficial trips on each of them separately; and

(e) the action taken so far by Central Government to recover the fares of unofficial trips from such persons?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of airlift services provided in the Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft to the former Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Raksha Mantri & Home Minister from the period 1.1.2000 till date are given in the enclosed statement-I (See below) and details in respect of other Cabinet Ministers are given in the enclosed statement-II (See below).

(c) to (e) As per the existing Orders only the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister are entitled to use the IAF aircraft for non-official purposes. The charges which were due from the former Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister for the non-official journeys during the above period have been collected in full and there is no arrear pending against them.

***Statement-I***

*Details of airlift services provided in the IAF aircraft to the former Prime Minister (PM), Deputy Prime Minister, Raksha Mantri (RM) & Home Minister (HM)*

Year	Dignitary	No. of Official tours
2000	PM	25
	RM	46
	HM	12
2001	PM	37
	RM	37
	HM	7

Year	Dignitary	No. of Official tours
2002	PM	20
	Deputy PM	16
	RM	59
	HM	-
2003	PM	36
	Deputy PM	63
	RM	73
	HM	-
2004	PM	11
(Till may 2004)	Deputy PM	13
	RM	12
	HM	-

NOTE: AS per Office Memorandum dated 6th January/ 981, the PM, Deputy PM, Raksha Mantri and Home Minister are entitled to use IAF aircraft for official/Defence purposes, free of charge.

***Statement-II***

*Details of airlift services provided in the IAF aircraft to the former Cabinet Ministers*

JANUARY 2000-M ARCH 2001

Sl.No.	Minister	Number of Flights
1.	External Affairs	6
2.	Agriculture	5
3.	Water Resources	1
4.	Railways	1
5.	Tribal Affairs	1
6.	Commerce	1
7.	Finance	1

[17 May, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

APRIL 2002-MARCH 2002

Sl.No.	Minister	Number of Flights
1.	Healths Family Welfare	3
2.	Agriculture	1
3.	External Affairs	1

APRIL 2002-MARCH 2003

Sl.No.	Minister	Number of Flights
1.	External Affairs	8
2.	Finance	5
3.	Shipping	1
4.	Railways	1

APRIL 2003-MARCH 2004

Sl.No.	Minister	Number of Flights
1.	Finance	5
2.	External Affairs	3

**Unmanned ship taken into Custody at Nicobar Coast**

†3394. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in January, 2006 an unmanned ship was found at the Nicobar Coast which was taken into custody by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the date of landing the said ship alongwith the date on which this has come into the knowledge of the Coast Guard; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.