

Development of performance enhancing drugs by DRDO

1553. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether DRDO has developed performance enhancing drugs for high altitude areas in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the salient features of the said drugs; and
- (d) the extent to which the health of defence personnel will be improved after the use of such drugs?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh, a laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has developed a unique herbal formulation "Performax" of ten important herbs known to have adaptogenic properties. Animal studies conducted showed nearly 36% increased physical performance during exposure to altitude simulating 25,000 ft. Human studies are being planned in collaboration with 153 GH.

- (c) The salient features of the developed drugs are:—
 - The capsule has a calorific value of 211.8 C and is rich in adaptogens and antioxidants including vitamins.
 - It is completely herbal with no toxic effect.
 - It can be used as herbal prophylactic and dietary supplement.

(d) Formulation could be used as a prophylactic to improve physical and mental performance of the troops deployed at high altitude and other stressful operational environments. It can improve respiratory, circulatory, nervous and hormonal functions to cope with higher levels of stress.

Marine exports

1554. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise and product-wise earnings from marine products during the last three years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) aims to earn US \$ 4 billion in 2011-12;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the percentage of India's share in the international marine exports;