

Armed Police Forces) prior to their induction in the Left Wing Extremism affected States. During this period, the CAPFs personnel are also imparted training to detect and destroy Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)/mines. The Army is also imparting training to State Police Forces on various facets of counter-insurgency operations.

Irregularities in pension to freedom fighters by banks

216. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that irregularities were detected in pension to freedom fighters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government had asked the Banks to update records of such pensioners; and
- (d) if so, the response received by Government from the Banks in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) The data of freedom fighters and their eligible dependents provided by some banks indicated a number of indential names of pensioners/eligible dependents. Since complete details such as father's/husband's name, addresses, correct Pension Payment Order numbers in many cases had not been provided by the banks, they were advised to reconcile and update the data of freedom fighters/eligible dependents drawing pension after verification. Some of the banks have reported discrepancies in the disbursal of pension to the freedom fighters/dependents, in a few cases, which include disbursal of dependent family pension to the pensioners' widows who themselves are Central Samman Pensioners, disbursal of full family pension to each of the two widows of a deceased freedom fighter, crediting of pension to the accounts of the Central Samman Pensioners after their death, and disbursal of State pension from Central Government account. The concerned banks have been advised to disburse family pension to dependents of Central Samman Pensioners in accordance with the instructions issued in this regard and to recover excess payments from the concerned pensioners/dependents. The banks who have disbursed State Freedom Fighter Pension from Central Government account have been advised to refund such payments to Central Government alongwith penal interest.

Agitations for separate Telangana State

217. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that from past two months several agitations and protests have taken place in Andhra Pradesh in furtherance of demand of separate State of Telangana;