

mechanisms have been established by the Government at different levels including agencies and State/union territory authorities. Installation of radars covering the country's entire coastline and islands is also an essential part of this process.

(d) and (e) The coastal security issues are regularly reviewed at appropriate levels with National Committee on Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security (NCSMCS), being the apex body for inter-ministerial and interagency coordination. The last meeting of NCSMCS was held on 30.11.2012.

#### **Crash of defence helicopters**

†2834. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for two defence helicopters crashed in Jamnagar, Gujarat and the number of officers killed therein; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to curb recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) There was a mid-air collision of two Indian Air Force (IAF) helicopters at Air Force Station, Jamnagar on 30th August, 2012, during a flying exercise when the two helicopters were in close proximity to each other. Five pilots and four Service personnel were killed in the accident.

(b) Every IAF aircraft accident is thoroughly investigated by a Court of Inquiry (CoI) to ascertain the cause of accident and remedial measures are taken accordingly to check their recurrence. IAF has taken various measures relating to invigoration of aviation safety organization, analytical studies and quality audits of the aircraft fleets to identify vulnerable areas and institute remedial measures to reduce aircraft accidents, including establishment of a Ornithology cell for bird surveys at flying bases. All flying bases have been visited by senior Aerospace Safety personnel of the IAF to apprise the operating units suitably and get views for enhancing aviation safety. Accident prevention programmes have been revitalized, including steps to train pilots to prevent accidents due to human error which includes increased use of simulators. Aviation Psychology and Aerospace Safety capsules have been introduced in the ab initio training programmes.

#### **Top scientists of DRDO working on extended tenures**

2835. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that dozens of top scientists at the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) are working on extended tenures;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government disfavours the policy of retaining officers or 'specialists after their retirement; and

(c) if so, the reasons for retaining them and the steps taken to impart training to the new scientists as specialists?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Presently, only 11 Distinguished (top) Scientists are working in Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on extended tenures.

(b) Extension in service of scientists and technologists is granted by the Government on a selective basis only for which provisions exist.

(c) This extension is granted keeping in view their knowledge and merit in the concerned fields. DRDO is thus able to utilize rich experience and knowledge of these scientists in on-going research works. DRDO has also been giving due importance to training. The Organization has dedicated training institutes, such as Targeted Training Centre at Bangalore, Institute of Technology Management (ITM) at Mussoorie, Training Institute at Jodhpur, Military Institute of Training (MILIT) at Pune. DRDO has a well established training policy, whereby training programmes for scientists are organized/sponsored in technical and techno-managerial areas through renowned academic institutes/universities/other organizations from India and abroad.

#### **Land under possession of defence forces**

2836. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise and force-wise total area of land in possession of Indian Army, Navy and Air Force in the country;

(b) whether these lands are acquired by land acquisition process or otherwise;

(c) the total area of defence land encroached by private parties; and

(d) the total area of land with respect to which defence forces/Government is alleged to have encroached a private land and/or with respect to which it is alleged that there is no title with the defence forces?