

Raising of tenure of chief of CBI

*396.DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand to raise the tenure of the Chief of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to five years, if not, at least three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to extend the tenure from the present two years to three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Director, CBI has, while conveying to the Government the concerns of CBI on the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 as passed by the Lok Sabha, recommended, *inter alia*, that Director, CBI should "continue to hold office for a period of not less than five years". Further, according to information furnished by CBI, the CBI has expressed its views on the issue before various Parliamentary Committees that the tenure of the Director should be increased to five years.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Section 4B of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 provides that the Director, CBI shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the rules relating to his conditions of service, continue to hold office for a period of not less than two years from the date on which he assumes office. The Select Committee of Rajya Sabha which considered the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 has also gone into various aspects relating to strengthening of CBI. In its report on the Bill, the Select Committee has, *inter alia*, recommended "Director of Prosecution and Director of CBI shall have a fixed term of two years".

Economic relation with ASEAN countries

*397.SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is forging deeper economic relations with Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries;

(b) if so, the details of sectors therein;

(c) whether for any economic cooperation to become meaningful, the geographical barrier between India and the region must be erased; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is taking to erase the barrier?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries are forging deeper economic relations across multiple sectors covering trade, investment and services.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made to strengthen air, road, rail and maritime connectivity with ASEAN and an Inter-Ministerial Group on ASEAN Transport Connectivity, chaired by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has been constituted.

Punishment awarded by Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel

*398. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Indian sportspersons have been awarded punishments by the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel resulting in loss of awards in the last three years;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether to curb the menace of doping and to create a clean and healthy environment for sports in the country, Government proposes to take any concrete steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Anti Doping Disciplinary Panel has imposed sanctions on 354 athletes, out of 410 athletes, who were found positive in dope testing during the last three years *i.e.* from 2010 to November, 2012. Discipline-wise details of number of athletes who were found dope test positive and sanctions imposed are given in the Statement (*See* below). However, no Indian athlete who won a medal in international sports events, had to lose medal on account of punishment imposed by the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel during the said period.