

**Development of islands off the coast of Vasco
and Canacona in Goa**

2148. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has requested the Government of Goa to permit it survey, develop or monitor the developments of the islands off the coast of Vasco and Canacona in Goa;

(b) if so, the names and area of these islands;

(c) what is the objective of the Ministry in doing so;

(d) when was the request made and when was the consent/approval given by the Government of Goa; and

(e) whether owners of these islands were taken on board or whether their consent was taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Increase in freedom fighters' pension and family pension

†2149. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will increase the freedom fighters' pension and family pension as Seventh Central Pay Commission has recommended to increase the salary and pension of Government servants *w.e.f.* 1st January, 2016;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) to (c) The Central Freedom Fighter Pension is given to the freedom fighters/their dependents in accordance with the provisions of Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980. This is a distinct scheme and is not related to Central Civil Service Pension of Central Government employees and therefore, does not come under the ambit of the Central Pay Commission.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.