

procurement from various indigenous as well as foreign vendors to keep the armed forces in a state of readiness to meet any eventuality.

No Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed during the last two financial years (2017-18 & 2018-19) with other countries for defence procurement.

National Forest Policy, 2018

963. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 has been approved and put in operation and if so, the salient features of the policy;

(b) whether the document focuses on increasing productivity from forests which is in direct conflict with REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation) and if so, mechanism by which Government hopes to resolve this conflict; and

(c) whether the States have been consulted before framing the guidelines for the National Community Forest Management Mission which is a part of the policy and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had prepared the Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 and placed it in public domain for comments. After an exhaustive and wide consultation processes with all major stakeholders and incorporating their feedbacks, the Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 has been further revised. However the new National Forest Policy has not been approved yet. As of now the existing National Forest Policy, 1988 is in operation.

(b) and (c) Since the Draft National Forest Policy, 2018 has not been approved, the questions do not arise.

Landslide Management

964. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to ensure reduction of landslide risk and its management in the hilly states of the country including Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?