

- (c) the committees where CDS would be appointed; and
- (d) whether CDS would also come in the ambit of 'Right to Information Act', if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Government has approved in principle the creation of a post of CDS. An Implementation Committee was also approved and constituted to further determine and finalize the exact responsibilities, an enabling framework for this new post and all other issues involved to ensure smooth operationalization. The said Committee has submitted its report.

- (d) "Chief of Defence Staff" would come in the ambit of 'Right to Information Act', in accordance with the provisions of RTI Act, 2005.

Civilians working in the ministry

1456. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a part of the defence budget is being utilised towards payments to civilians working under the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of civilians presently employed under the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Total budget of Ministry of Defence is distributed over four grants viz. Grant No. 18 - Ministry of Defence (Civil), Grant No. 19 - Revenue Expenditure (Defence Services), Grant No. 20 - Capital Outlay on Defence Services and Grant No. 21 - Defence Pensions.

Civilians working under the Ministry of Defence which includes the three Services and other organizations are paid out of three grants namely Grant No. 18, Grant No. 19 and Grant No. 21.

- (c) As per records approximately 3.76 lakh defence civilians are employed under the Ministry as on 01st March, 2019.