

grammes for employment creation and income generation.

In the Seventh Plan a major impetus will be given to programme of vocationalisation at the higher secondary stage of education. Facilities for vocational education will be suitably diversified to cover a large number of fields in agriculture, industry, trade and commerce and services. Skills imparted will be of adequate standard for securing gainful employment or self-employment. The vocational courses will be introduced in a flexible manner linked to emerging work opportunities.

The Seventh Plan has observed that in order to avoid imbalances, especially of trained and educated manpower, the existing training programmes would have to be reviewed while the traditional skills of rural artisans require upgradation in tune with the changing village culture and to improve their competitiveness; fuller utilisation of the already available manpower through the upgradation of skills and on-the-job training/retraining would be necessary.

(c) The views expressed and suggestions made in regard to a National Wage Policy from various quarters are engaging the attention of the Ministry of Labour.

Compulsory military training

2497. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to make military training compulsory in the country; and

(b) if so, details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Treatment of entire dearness allowance and adhoc dearness allowance for purpose of Retirement benefits

2498. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to treat the entire dearness allowance and adhoc dearness allowance sanctioned upto index level of 568 points as dearness pay for the purpose of retirement benefits of defence service officers and personnel retiring after March 31, 1985;

(b) if so, whether such a proposal was announced by him as a part of budget proposals for 1985-86 in respect of all the Government employees including the defence personnel;

(c) whether a decision has been taken in the matter and, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The decision was announced by the Finance Minister in his speech introducing the budget proposals for 1985-86 in the Parliament and covers the Central Government employees, including defence personnel, retiring on or after 31.3.85.

(c) Necessary Government orders have since been issued.

(d) Does not arise.

Release of more funds for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Orissa.

2499. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Orissa have asked the Union Government to release more funds to enable their children to pursue studies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the money shown in the non-plan expenditure for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the States Budget had not been granted by the State Government on the plea that the same had not been received from the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Certain M.L.As of Orissa have requested sanctioning of more funds to Orissa Government for Post-Matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) and (d). According to the existing norms in the matter of Post-Matric Scholarship, any State Government is to bear the expenditure upto the level of the last year of the Sixth Five Year Plan, which is treated as committed non-plan expenditure of the State. Central Government will bear cent percent of the additional expenditure over and above that committed liability of the State; the State Government will be reimbursed to that extent by the Central Government.

International Conference on Pesticides

2500. **SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an international conference on pesticides was held at Lucknow recently; and

(b) if so, the nature of the discussions held and the net outcome of the meet ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-

NOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. An International Conference on Pesticides : Toxicity Safety and Risk Assessment was held during October 27-31, 1985 at Lucknow.

(b) In the conference relevant dimensions of the toxicity of pesticides, namely, methods of carrying out toxicity tests and their standardisation, toxicity due to different kinds of exposure during production, its handling, at its use, and short and long term commulative exposure effects, residual effects, problem of storage of pesticides and its intermediates and so on, were discussed.

Some of the important points that emerged were as follows :

- (1) Standardisation of various toxicity tests related to pesticides in the mammalian system, for aquatic flora and fauna and for different plant and animal species from the point of view of studying mutagenic, teratogenic and carcinogenic potential of various pesticides is required and practised uniformly all over the country.
- (2) Public need to be kept informed of the proper use of these pesticides and the harmful effects of it, if they do not follow the norms for their use. Various public bodies should enforce the safe use of pesticides at prescribed levels.
- (3) Specific studies and investigations that need to be carried out to understand the mechanism of the toxic effects of pesticides have been identified.
- (4) Safety requirements during manufacture of pesticides have to be outlined and made available to all staff connected with manufacture and public authorities.
- (5) During the registration of pesticides by the registration autho-