

Utilisation of Tourist Potentialities in Orissa

75. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the tremendous tourist potentialities of Orissa with its sea beaches, Chilka and Anshupa lakes, national parks, bird sanctuaries, luxurient forest, hill stations, water-falls, historical and archaeological states;

(b) if so, what steps the Union Government propose to take to exploit the underutilised potentialities to earn a good amount of foreign exchange; and

(c) whether appropriate schemes are proposed to be undertaken in order to develop these tourist spots in the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Development of tourist potential is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Based on specific proposals from State Governments, Minister of Tourism extends financial assistance to States, dependent upon the merit of each case, availability of funds and inter-se-priority. Tourism potential in the country, including the state of Orissa, could be further exploited to earn foreign exchange. The Ministry have sanctioned financial assistance for 19 projects during the Seventh Plan and 11 schemes have been prioritised to extend financial assistance to Government of Orissa for 1990-91.

Re-Constitution of Telecommunication Advisory Committees

76. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecommunication Advisory Committees at different levels are proposed to be re-constituted; and

(b) if so, by what time? .

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, the re-constitution of various Telecom/Telephone advisory Committees is under process and these are expected to be reconstituted shortly.

Linking of Taluks in Hassan District by S.T.D.

77. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTAI AH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the taluks of Hassan District in Karnataka are linked with STD;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the talukas not yet linked with STD and by what time these will be linked with STD?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Only Hassan is provided with S.T.D. facility so far.

(c) The remaining talukas are proposed to be provided with S.T.D. during the current Plan period.

Vacancy of Director General Post in ICAR

78. SHRI JOSS FERNANDEZ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research is lying vacant for the last six months; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to fill up the post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Sir, Secretary to Government of India, Department of Agricultural Research & Education functions as Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Presently Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is holding the additional charge of the Department of Agricultural Research & Education.

(b) Union Public Service Commission has been requested to make selection for the post of Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agricultural Research & Education.

[*Translation*]

Study of Ground Water Resources in Drought Prone Areas of Bihar

79. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study about the ground water resources had been conducted in drought prone areas of Bihar during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Godda, Deodhar and Dumka districts of Bihar have been included in the ground water resources development scheme for 1990-91; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far in this

regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). Ground Water studies in drought prone areas of Bihar have already been completed. During 1990-91, Reappraisal Hydrogeological Survey in 3000 sq. km. area is in progress in Dumka District. Exploratory drilling for ground water is being carried out in drought prone Palamau and Godda Districts.

(c) and (d). The State Government plans and implements Water Resources projects for the development of available ground water resources.

[*English*]

Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Calicut

80. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology from Calicut to Cochin in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): Sir, There is a proposal to close down the research centre of the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology located at Calicut, but an Extension Cell of the Institute will continue to function at Calicut.

(b) The Research Centre has outlived its utility.