

oreign exposures through participation in appropriate international competitions; and use of imported archery equipments. A special programme of tapping natural talent from the tribal areas of the country, and imparting rigorous training to them at the Sports Authority of India's Centres is being implemented, as part of the Special Area Games Scheme of the SAI.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Talent was identified from the Kurichiya and Panna tribes.

(e) A talent contest was conducted and the talented archers, identified at this contest, underwent two assessment/coaching camps and the archers so identified were admitted to the Special Area Games (SAG) Centre at Delhi. Necessary facilities have been provided to impart systematic training to a long term and scientific basis under expert coaches.

Implementation of Central Schemes

2072. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of Central Government programmes for rural upliftment, women's upliftment, etc. are to be entrusted wholly to State Governments;

(b) whether funds meant for the said programmes are also to be given to the respective State Governments;

(c) if so, the amount allocated to the State of Kerala this year; and

(d) what are the means of monitoring proper utilisation of funds and proper implementation of programmes?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). The Planning Commission is of the view that

there should be a more selective approach to Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the Eighth Plan. The large number of such schemes currently in operation including programmes for rural upliftment and women's upliftment are being reviewed with a view to determining which need to be continued, which may be transferred to the States along with the resources, and which may need to be retained. Final decisions have not yet been taken.

(d) Monitoring and review of Plan Programmes including Centrally Sponsored Schemes is done with the help of State Governments through the mechanism of periodical reports, Annual Plan discussions and mid-term reviews.

[*Translation*]

Admission of Sri Lankan Students In Indian Universities

2073. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to admit some students from Sri Lanka in various Indian universities;

(b) if so, how many students from Sri Lanka have sought admission on the ground that their's is a disturbed country; and

(c) the number of Sri Lanka students proposed to be accommodated in different universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (c). A formal request to the Government of India has been made by Sri Lanka for

securing 500 scholarships for Sri Lankan students to pursue under-graduate and post-graduate studies in India. The request has been made in view of universities in Sri Lanka remaining closed for some time because of disturbed conditions. The Government has decided to offer 500 scholarships to students from Sri Lanka—400 for under-graduate and 100 for post-graduate studies. The University Grants Commission would arrange for admission of these students during the academic session 1990-91.

[English]

Talks about Tehri Dam Project

2074. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-
WAJ:
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held under his Chairmanship between representatives of Environmentalists and other interests to discuss the various objections against the construction of Tehri Dam Project; and

(b) if so, the decisions taken in the light thereof to carry out the various items of work under the project, including the Coffer Dam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The Minister of State for Environment and Forests held a meeting of all concerned to discuss the environmental issues of the Tehri Dam Project. It was decided that the work on the clearance of river bed may be resumed without blasting operations, but no construction work on the Coffer Dam is to

be undertaken till a final decision is taken.

Reconsideration of Hydel Projects

2075. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some major Hydel Projects are being reconsidered on the basis of ecological and environmental protection;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Tehri dam project is reported to be located in a seismic zone,

(d) if so, the implications thereof; and

(e) the final decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Because of the weak geological formations and high seismicity of the region, the Tehri Dam Project is being designed as a rockfill structure. The dam has, therefore, to be designed for a maximum credible earthquake likely to occur in the region. These aspects have been examined by the standing Environmental Appraisal Committee for River Valley Projects of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and a final decision will be taken shortly.

Operation Blackboard

2076. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of blocks covered under the