

number of government officers who have been granted extension after superannuation during the last financial year is not available in this Ministry.

(c) Extension in service after superannuation to a Government servant is to be granted in very rare and exceptional circumstances, purely in public interest when either another officer is not ripe enough to takeover the job or the retiring officer is of outstanding merit.

[*Translation*]

Mica Mining

2150. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to permit mining by mica mining lease holders and get afforestation done in lieu thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (c). Any proposal for mining of mica involving forest land requires prior approval of Central Government under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The concerned State Government has to submit the proposal to the Central Government in the proforma prescribed under the Act. Each case is decided on its merits. Cases are approved after ensuring that adequate environmental safeguards have been proposed including adequate reclamation measures of the mined out areas and compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest land which is proposed to be put to non-forestry use for mining.

[*English*]

Health Sector Planning in Eighth Plan

2152. SHRIPARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a separate health sector planning in the Eighth Five Year Plan and there is special emphasis on health of women and children;

(b) whether success of population programme very much depends on the general health and status of women and children;

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure that population programmes are not at the cost of general health care and preventive medicare services; and

(d) whether Government propose to entrust the responsibility of actual planning, implementation, monitoring and target setting of the population programmes on local Mahila Mandals, Panchayat Raj institutions and other local community organisations and if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Right from the First Five Year Plan, planning for Health Sector has been done on sectoral basis but it forms an integral part of the overall socio-economic development planning. For the Eighth Five Year Plan also, planning for Health and Family Welfare Programmes would be along similar lines. Under the Family Welfare Programme, special emphasis is placed on ensuring better health to mothers and children under the Maternal and child Health Programme (MCH).

(b) Of the various factors affecting the success of the population programme, the general health and status of women and children are very important. The other impor-