

6. During the first nine months of 1991-92 (upto December, 1991) the financial achievements remained less than 50 per cent at the All India and State level. This shows that more than 50 per cent of the available funds would be utilised only during the last quarter and major works would have to be taken up during the terminal quarter.
7. Of the 40 selected Gram Panchayats, 2 in 1989-90 and 6 in 1990-91 did not utilise the funds at all. In the first half of 1991-92, 19 Gram Panchayats did not report any utilisation of funds.
8. The Gram Panchayats which utilised the funds could provide employment to a person for an average number of 11.44 and 15.68 days during 1989-90 and 1990-91 respectively.
9. All the selected beneficiaries (598) did not get employment in all the years under Study.
10. It was observed in the case of 75 per cent of selected Gram Panchayats that the illustrative list of works as per JRY Manual has become an exhaustive list at the operational level.
11. The quality of assets was not upto the mark in 56 per cent of the Gram Panchayats. Eighty-nine per cent of the selected beneficiaries had expressed that assets created were useful. However, the

maintenance of assets has not been given due attention. Even the quality of maintenance of assets was found to be good in a few Gram Panchayats only.

12. At the Gram Panchayat level, it was felt that the wage; material ratio was not workable. The Panchayat Secretary was over-worked and the action plan instead of being prepared by the Gram Panchayat was prepared by block agency, in some cases, thereby ignoring the felt-needs of the area. It was gathered that the technical guidance was not available, measurement of works was delayed, and operational area of the junior engineer was too large. Other problems reported at the Gram Panchayat level, were; engagement of contractors for execution of works, lack of proper maintenance of muster rolls, and factions at the Gram Panchayats.

[English]

#### **Expenditure on Antarctica Expeditions**

2985. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any audit of the Antarctica Expeditions being done on an annual basis;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on such expeditions every year;

(c) the scientific research being done;

(d) whether the Government are taking fresh steps to stake claim of India to fishery and other rights in Antarctica; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT: (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):  
(a) Yes. Sir. The Antarctic Expeditions are a part of the programme of the Department of Ocean Development and is audited on an annual basis.

(b) Expenditure incurred on Antarctic Expeditions is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) Scientific research activities are being carried out in the fields of Atmospheric Sciences, Meteorology, Geology, Geophysics, Geomagnetism, Biology, Oceanography, Physiology, Structural Engineering and Environmental aspects.

(d) and (e). As regards marine resources in Antarctica, India is already a member of the Commission of the Convention on Conservation of Antarctic marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) and, accordingly, India has a major role to play in the decision making processes.

As regards mineral resources, any activity other than scientific research is

prohibited by the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty.

In accordance with the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, States are prohibited from making any territorial claims in Antarctica while the Treaty is in force.

### STATEMENT

*Expenditure incurred in Antarctic programmes so far is Rs. 112.66 crores approx.*

#### Break up:

*Expenditure in Rupees (in Crores)*

Expedition	Total
First	1.90
Second	1.95
Third	5.70
Fourth	6.20
Fifth	5.74
Sixth	5.12
Seventh	6.50
Eighth	11.50
Ninth	12.90
Tenth	12.34
Eleventh	13.90
Twelfth	14.91
Thirteenth (tentative)	14.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>112.66</b>