

(b) if so, the possibilities of setting up such industries in Amrawati district in Maharashtra;

(c) the special steps taken by Government to set up forest based industries; in Melghat Division (Mandal) in Amrawati district; and

(d) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no scope for establishing large-scale forest-based industries in Amrawati district in Maharashtra. Other industries such as manufacture of doors and windows, bullock-carts, agricultural implements, tool handles, furniture, toys, picture-frames, etc. and oil-extraction units exist in the small-scale, cottage-scale and artisan sectors.

(c) and (d). A special study group for examining the feasibility of establishing forest-based industries has been appointed by the Maharashtra Government Oct., 1983. Details are awaited.

Output of Computer

5682. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great need to increase the output of computers in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to boost computer output;

(c) the incentive proposed to be provided for this purpose during the year 1985-86; and

(d) the target fixed for the production of computers for 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government announced new computer policy on 19-11-1984 to enable manufacture of computers based on the latest

technology in the country, at prices near international prices and progressively increase indigenisation consistent with economic viability. The new Computer Policy provides for manufacture of mini-computers/microcomputers including Personal Computers by any Indian Company i.e. wholly owned Indian companies and companies with foreign equity not exceeding 40%, in the private or public sector. The new policy has removed restriction on capacity and manufacture of low-cost systems (below Rs. 3 lakhs) even by units in the organised sector.

(c) The Government have announced reduced rate of custom duty for the components/parts required for the manufacture of computer and computer peripherals. The Government have also completely removed excise duty on the indigenously produced components and peripherals.

(d) Production of computers worth Rs. 150 crores has been targetted for the year 1985-86.

Grant and Assistance to Artist

5683. **SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI :** Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the year between 1981 to 1984 there was any financial assistance or grant or any other kind of help such as land, building, given to any individual, performing artist, public and private institution from the Ministry of Culture ; and

(b) if so, the names of the artist and the institution, belonging to which State and the criterion for such assistance and grant and its utilisation particulars ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.