

Setting up of Central Centre Under 'IRS-I Utilisation Programme'

402. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from Rajasthan Government for setting up at Jodhpur a Centre under 'IRS-I Utilisation Programme;'

(b) if so, whether Government have taken some action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (c). There are a number of joint experiments which are proposed to be conducted along with User-Agencies in Rajasthan under the IRS-I Utilisation Programme. In the overall context of utilising remote sensing data including those from IRS Satellites under the National Natural Resources Management System; it has been decided to locate the fifth Regional Remote Sensing Service Centre at Jodhpur at the campus of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The decision took into account various national requirements, technical considerations and the requests received from a few states including Rajasthan. This Centre will contain a computer based interactive system for analysing various remote sensing data including data from IRS and some remote sensing equipment related to such interpretation. The Centre is planned to provide services to various national users including those around the Region. Technical action on various aspects concerning this Centre is under progress.

(d) Does not arise.

Identification of Backward Areas in Himachal Pradesh

403. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Planning Commission have identified during the past three years any indicator for the identification of backward areas in respect of remoteness and inaccessibility; demographic composition/situation; infrastructure; and agricultural situation;

(b) if so, the exact indicators and the weightable points fixed in respect of each one of indicators and their components;

(c) whether all the State Governments have accepted the indicators and identified the backward areas; and

(d) if so, the names of the backward areas identified in Himachal Pradesh in accordance with these indicators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No, Sir. The Planning Commission have not identified during the past three years any indicator for the identification of backward areas.

(b) and (c) . Do not arise.

(d) Does not arise. However, on the basis of broad indicators viz. remoteness and inaccessibility, demographic, infrastructural and agricultural, adopted by the State Government of their own, a list of Panchayats declared by them as backward during the last three years is given in the Statement below.