

AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a), (c) and (d). The Government of India are already aware of the stand of the State Governments concerned with this border dispute.

(b) This dispute can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the two State Governments concerned and towards this end the Central Government will be glad to extend all assistance to them.

Exemption for Felling of Trees in Kerala

6019. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have granted exemptions from the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to the State of Kerala thereby permitting clearance of forests for non-forestry purposes;

(b) if so, how many such exemptions have been granted and what area of forests have thus been cleared; and

(c) whether all the pre-requisition to the granting of such exemptions under the Act have been fulfilled; if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Assistance for Remote Sensing Application Centre in Orissa

6020. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Electronics is funding a computer for the Remote Sensing Application Centre;

(b) whether any request for such centre has been received from Orissa; and

(c) if so, details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A decision was taken by the Department of Electronics (DOE) that it would be more appropriate for user agencies to fund such Remote Sensing Application Centres by themselves than through DOG, as DOE does not have any approved plan projects in this area.

Setting up of Cultural Centres Abroad

6021. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up cultural centres in foreign countries wherever considered necessary; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present we have cultural centres at Suva (Fiji), Paramaribo (Surinam) and Georgetown (Guyana). A cultural window at Bonn (FRG) has also been opened recently. The question of setting up of cultural centres in some other countries is under consideration.

Schemes for Upliftment of Scheduled Castes in Madhya Pradesh

6022. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes presently under implementation in Madhya Pradesh for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes;

(b) the number of scheduled castes families benefited under these schemes;

(c) the target set to provide different kind of benefits to the Scheduled Castes in Madhya Pradesh in the Seventh Plan; and