

(b) whether it will in any way hamper Indian team's research operations there; and

(c) the conditions laid down by the Antarctica Treaty Nations for setting up of such stations there particularly the avoidance of any adverse impact of human activities on Antarctica?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. The first Pakistani scientific expedition to Antarctica was launched in December 1990. Reportedly, there are plans for a follow up expedition.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Activities by any Governmental or non-Governmental agency undertaken in the Antarctic Treaty area pursuant to scientific research are required to be planned and conducted in such a manner so as not to adversely affect the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems.

Revision of Service Rules

502. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to revise and update the existing service rules and orders/instructions by the Government to bring these in tune with the present environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Revision and updating of the rules and orders/instructions relating to the conditions of service of the Central Government employees are done on an on-going basis, whenever the Government finds

the need for the same or proposals are received in this regard. Such changes cannot be brought about as a one-time measure only.

Employment in IFFCO

503. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers/employees estimated to be employed in IFFCO fertilizer Factory Aonla, Barcilly, Uttar Pradesh at the time of its commissioning;

(b) the actual number of labourers/employees presently working therein; and the number of local people out of them;

(c) whether employment facility has been provided to all those families whose land was acquired for the factory; and

(d) if not, the time by which they are proposed to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) There were 689 employees at the time of commissioning of IFFCO fertilizer plant at Aonla.

(b) There are 986 employees at present out of which 308 are from Barcilly, District where the plant is located.

(c) and (d) IFFCO has given direct employment to all those land losers who sold excess of 60% of their land for the Aonla Project. It may be possible to provide employment to other land losers subject to availability of vacancies and acquiring of necessary skills by them. The potential of employment for unskilled jobs is very limited.