

(b) if so, the progress made in implementing the scheme;

(c) the number of districts covered under this scheme; and

(d) the total financial assistance provided under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) : (a) to (c). A project for strengthening of Secondary Level Hospital Services in Karnataka is under formulation for availing of external assistance. 19 districts are proposed to be covered under the project which is shortly to be appraised by an external mission of World Bank.

(d) This will be available after the project is approved.

Satellite Survey of Flood/Drought Affected Areas

2878. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any satellite survey has been conducted in respect of drought and flood affected areas of Uttar Pradesh during last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Satellite survey of drought affected areas of Uttar Pradesh has been conducted by the Department of Space. This survey provides monthly crop and seasonal condition reports at the district level during the period June to October every year. This includes the status of vegetation condition and an assessment of drought condition, if any, reflected through vegetation index derived through satellite data. This is being done operationally from 1992 onwards.

Satellite data is being regularly used for timely mapping of floods in August/September every year. This information is then provided to Central and State Government agencies dealing with flood management. Department of Space has provided flood maps showing the flood inundation and extent of damage with data for various parts of Uttar Pradesh using Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellite data.

IES Officers under Central Staff Scheme

2879. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Economic Service (IES) Officers

are holding Joint Secretary and higher level posts in Government of India under Central Staffing Scheme at present;

(b) if so, whether the representation of IES Officers in the posts referred to (a) above is adequate keeping in view the cadre strength and the expertise of these officers in economic matters;

(c) how the representation of IES Officers at the senior level position referred to in (a) above compare with the IES and IA & AS; and

(d) the steps, the Government propose to take for improving the representation of I.E.S. Officers to senior level positions under the Central staffing scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (d). The posts at the level of Under Secretary and above are filled up as per the provisions laid down in the Central Staffing Scheme. Such posts are not earmarked for members of any particular Service. These posts are filled up on tenure deputation basis for a specified period and after completion of their tenure, the concerned officers revert to their parent cadres. The Indian Economic Service (IES) is one of the Organised Services participating in the Central Staffing Scheme to fill posts at the level of Under Secretary and above in the Government of India. Officers belonging to this service are considered for appointment to the various posts under the Central Staffing Scheme subject to their suitability/availability.

Naval Squadron

2880. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the training and operational tasks in the Indian Navy, particularly relating to operation of the air squadrons in the naval air stations has been adversely affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. There has however been a marginal shortfall

in Flying Tasks in respect of a few squadrons due to some shortage of spares as well as bad weather. All efforts are afoot for acquisition of necessary spares.

Dual use Technology

2881. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether country is facing any exclusion in the area of dual use technology exports of designs and processes that have sensitive application;

(b) if so, the specific areas affected;

(c) whether Indian Research Technical organisation, Indian Industry and other venture capital institutions have done any mapping exercise to form a consortia to strengthen R & D; and

(d) if so, the details of the new research technology format evolved; if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Raid by C.B.I.

2882. SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the C.B.I. have raided the office of the Director General of Investigation and Registration recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS : SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A search of the office of a Deputy Director General in the Office of the Director General of Investigation & Registration was made on 18.05.1995. It was alleged that the officer and certain petroleum dealers had entered into a criminal conspiracy to extort money from various petroleum dealers of Rajasthan. While the investigation is in progress, the officer concerned has been placed under suspension with effect from 28.06.1995.

Disposal of Pension Claims

2883. SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government for speedy disposal of pension claims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any provision to penalise those officers who are responsible for inordinate delays; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (d). The system of sanction and payment of pension operates on a decentralised basis. The concerned Ministries and Departments from where a Government servant retires are responsible for ensuring such payments without delay. Some of the important steps taken by the Government to ensure timely disposal of pension cases of retiring persons are as under :-

- (i) A specific time schedule has been laid down in the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 and the corresponding rules applicable to All India Services Officers, Armed Forces personnel and Railway employees for advance action to be taken by the Head of Office and Audit/Accounts Officers to ensure timely assessment of retirement benefits and issue of Pension Payment Order not later than one month in advance of the date of retirement.
- (ii) Making Heads of Departments/Offices accountable for compliance with the Government orders for authorising pension, provisional or final, by the date of retirement.
- (iii) Identification of officers of the rank of Joint Secretary in the Ministries to monitor disposal of pensionary grievances.
- (iv) The retiring employees who do not receive pensionary benefits on the date of retirement may bring such cases to the notice of the Government.

Instructions for timely payment of pensionary benefits were reiterated by the Government in May 1994 emphasising the need for timely verification of qualifying service, appropriate training of employees handling pension cases, publicity regarding provision of CCS (Pension) Rules and periodical coordination meetings between administrative Heads and Accounts Offices. The Heads of Departments/Offices are required to ensure timely payment. The respective Departments can take action against the delinquent officials if they are found responsible for delay in payments.

Petrol Pumps LPG Dealers

2884. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :