

Setting up of Central Engineering College in Bareilly

1039. SHRISANTOSH KUMARGANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Central Engineering College in Bareilly; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said Engineering College is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON):

(a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Amendment to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

1040. SHRISANTOSH KUMARGANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make some amendments in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be made;

(c) whether any suggestions have been received in this regard from State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Suggestions received from the State Governments were discussed in a conference of Forest Ministers of States in May, 1989. As discussed in the conference, the following steps have been taken, to streamline the procedure for speedy disposal of cases under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:—

(1) Only those cases wherein forest area involved is more than 10 hectares are now referred to Advisory Committee for its advice. Cases involving forest area upto 10 hectares are decided by this Ministry without referring those to the Advisory Committee. The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests have been authorised to clear proposals involving forest land less than one hectare.

(2) In cases containing proposals for laying of transmission lines or pipes for drinking water supply and exploratory drilling for prospecting oil, which do not involve any cutting or felling of trees, simplified proforma has been prescribed. Such simplified proforma is to be used in cases involving forest area upto 2 hectares provided the area is devoid of tree cover or is having scanty tree growth and no tree cutting or felling of tree is involved.

(3) The Government of India do not allow diversion of forest land for rehabilitation of the people. However, such diversion is considered as special case if essentially required for rehabilitation of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other people who may have to be shifted from core zone of a National Park or Reserve.

(4) Diversion of forest land for construction of building is not normally considered. However, such diversions are allowed for construction of buildings for Schools, Hospi-

tals, Dispensaries, Community Halls, Co-operatives, Panchayats, tiny rural industrial-sheds of Government, etc., which are to be put up for the benefit of the people of that area, but such diversions should be strictly limited to the actually needed area and should not exceed one hectare in each case.

(5) In hill districts and in other districts having forest lands exceeding 50 per cent of the total geographical area, compensatory afforestation on non-forest land is not insisted upon and is permitted on degraded forest land twice in extent of the area diverted provided forest land involved is less than 5 hectares and the purpose of diversion is for construction of link road, small water works, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensary, hospital, tiny rural industrial shed of the Government or any other similar work which directly benefit the people of the area.

[English]

Technology Parks in Nagpur and Amravati

1041. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting-up of technology park in the city of Nagpur or at Amravati;

(b) whether a technology park is also being set up at Pune; and

(c) if so, the financial and other commitment of Central Government for setting-up of technology park in Pune?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, the Department of Electronics, Government of India is setting up a Software Technology Park at Pune.

A proposal received from the University of Poona, Pune to set up a Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park (STEP) has also been approved by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.

(c) The total cost of the project on Software Technology Park at Pune is Rs. 400 lakhs for a period of 3 years.

A detailed project report for setting up of a STEP is being prepared by the University of Poona to project the financial commitment required from the Central Government. So far, a total grant of Rs. 5,38,800/- has been provided to the University of Poona by Government of India during the last 3 years for carrying out the promotional work in connection with the project on STEP.

Use of Biotechnology in Agro-Climatic Zones

1042. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present state of 'laboratory to land' uses of biotechnology for different agro-climatic zones of India;

(b) the extent of production and actual utilisation of bio-fertilizers in these different agro-climatic zones; and

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the use of chemical pesticides and promote the use of bio-pest control measures; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE