77th Session of Indian Science Congress

1044. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the main thrust and the subject on which the 77th Session of the Indian Science Congress held recently at Cochin focussed its deliberations: and
 - (b) the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(a) and (b). The main thrust and the subject on which the 77th Session of Indian Science Congress held at Cochin during February, 1990 focussed its delibeations was "Science IN Society". The recommendations of this Science Congress have not yet been received by the Government as prosessing the recommendations normally takes some time.

Proposal to Start Composite Model Schools

1045. SHRI RAVI NARAYAN PANI: SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA: SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to start some composite model school in Delhi;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the areas where these schools are proposed 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) to (c). The Delhi Administration has a proposal to convert one existing Secondary/ Senior Secondary School into Composite Model School in each of the twenty-eight educational zones in Delhi.

SC/ST Policy in Non-Government Enterprises

1046. SHRI HET RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the reservation policy for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of employment is being extended to non-Government enterprises in organised sector who are receiving benefits of institutional finances;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the problems being faced by Government in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISH-WANATH PRATAP): (a) to (c). Instructions issued by Department of Personnel and Training regarding reservation for SC/ST are applicable to Central Civil posts and services and are not ipso facto applicable to non-Government enterprises. However, autonomous bodies, institutions, voluntary agencies which receive financial assistance from Government in the form of Grants in Aid are required to provide for reservation for SC/ST by making suitable provisions in the relevant statutes or in the Articles of Association of the respective bodies.

Indira Gandhi National Open University 1047. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University aims at taking education to the remotest corner of the country;
 - (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps Indira Gandhi National Open University propose to take to achieve its aim?

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) (b). One of the aims of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is to provide access to higher education to large segments of the population, and in particular, the disadvantaged groups such as those living in remote and rural areas.

(c) Indira Gandhi National Open University has established a net-work of Student Support Services through-out the country. This consists of 133 Study Centres which are coordinated by 13 Regional Centre. A number of IGNOU's Study Centres are located in remote areas. During the year 1990-91, IGNOU proposes to set up several new Study Centres including a Mobile Centre. Some of there are likely to be in remote areas of the country.

Cheaper Methods of Satellite Launching

- 1048. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether requests have been made to Government to explore new methods for reducing costs involved in launching satellite;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government proposer to take in this regard?

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) and (c). Do not arise.

Special Development Facilities to Backward Hill Areas

- 1049. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether requests have been received by Government for extension of special developmental facilities to the backward hill area;
- (b) whether Government propose to provide these facilities to the people of backward hill areas of Maharashtra also;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISH-WANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d). Requests from a number of States have been received from time to time for inclusion of new hill areas in the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP). Under this programme, Central Government gives special Central Assistance to supplement States' effort for bringing about socio-economic development of the hill people. The development of hill areas is basically the responsibility of the concerned States Governments.

In order to evolve criteria for the definition of hill areas and to indentify new hill