

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for cent per cent Central assistance for construction of fish landing centres/harbours in various Maritime States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government hereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNAKUMAR): (a) Ys, Sir. The Government of Gujarat had requested for 100% Central assistance for construction of a minor fishing harbour at Jakhau.

(b) and (c). The project has since been sanctioned in May, 1993 by the Government of India providing 100% Central assistance as a special case.

Assistance for Technical Education

454. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SAJL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the State Governments for the development of Technical Education during 1990-91 to 1992-93, State-wise; and

(b) the amount earmarked for 1993-94, therefor State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). There is no specific Central Scheme or providing financial assistance directly to the State Government for development of Technical Education. Financial assistance is given directly by the Central Government to the

technical institutions under schemes of the Thrust Areas of Technical Education, Modernisation & Removal of Obsolescence and Research & Development. This is in addition to the 100% funds provided by the Central Government to the Central autonomous institutions.

Non-Formal Education

455. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on non formal education scheme to eradicate the illiteracy in the country during Seventh Five Year Plan and the amount earmarked during Eighth Plan; and

(b) the target fixed for eradication of illiteracy under the said programme during eighth Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) An amount of Rs. 136. Crores was spent on Non Formal education Scheme during the VIIth Five Year Plan and an amount of Rs. 704 Crores has been earmarked for Non Formal Education Scheme during the VIIIth Five Year Plan.

(b) No target has been fixed under the programme of Non Formal Education Scheme, but however, it is proposed to increase the total number of Non Formal Education Projects to 3500 during the VIIIth Five Year Plan period subject to availability of adequate funds.

Biodiversity Convention

456. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a signatory to the

Biodiversity Convention; and .

(b) if so, the salient features of the Biodiversity Convention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) Yes, Madam. India has signed the Convention on Biological Diversity during the UNCED held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992.

(b) The Convention, through its 42 Articles, establishes commitments on conservation, access to genetic resources, transfer of technology, and benefit sharing and finance that are likely to make it an important instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of all components of biological diversity. The salient features of the Convention are that it recognises;

- intrinsic value of biological diversity;
- sovereign rights of States over their biological resources;
- the fundamental requirement of in-situ conservation of ecosystems, and natural habitats;
- the supporting role of ex-situ measures;
- the vital role of indigenous and local communities and women in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and the desirability of sharing equitably benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;
- the importance and the need to promote internal, regional and global cooperation for conservation; and
- requirement of substantial investments to conserve biological diversity.

Utilization of Funds for Pollution Control in Delhi

457. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated to the Delhi Administration for pollution control in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) whether the funds have actually been utilized;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction, of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS SHRI KAMAL NATH): a) An amount of Rs. 199.76,700.00 have been released by this Ministry during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 to Delhi Administration for pollution control.

(b) and (c). The Delhi Administration has not utilised the full amount due to delay in recruitment of staff and setting up of the laboratory in the Delhi Pollution Control Committee.

(d) Delhi Administration has given a time bound programme for expeditious utilisation of the funds.

Assistance to Save Nilgiri Campaign

458. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned any financial assistance to the Save Nilgiri Campaign under the National Environmental Awareness Campaign Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the