

Election to Panchayats

3084. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether not a single Gram Sabha was even established in A & N Islands and no election ever held under the provisions of the Section 2 of the A & N Islands Gram Panchayats Regulation, 1961;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Village Councils and Tribal Council has any legal sanctity;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons as to why the Tribal Council is being patronised under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Welfare Schemes for Coir Workers

3085. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the welfare schemes approved by the Union Government for the coir workers in Kerala during the last three years; and

(b) the extent to which the coir workers have been benefitted by these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Coir Board an autonomous body under Govt. of India, had been implementing Welfare Schemes for Coir workers under the Model Coir Village Programme announced by the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1987. More than 18,000 constructions benefitting an estimated number of 20,000 Coir workers have been sanctioned under the programme and 99.49% of these constructions have been completed. From 1991-92, onwards Coir Board has not been directly implementing any such programme. Instead Coir Board has paid an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs during the years 1991-93 to Kerala Coir Workers Welfare Fund Board for implementing Welfare Programmes for Coir Workers.

[*Translation*]

Employees in Government Canteens

3086. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 24, 1993 to Unstarred Question No. 4069 and state :

(a) the number of staff canteens running in the autonomous offices in Delhi and the number of canteens out of these, the staff of which have been declared as Government employees; and

(b) the reasons for not declaring the staff of all the canteens running under autonomous offices as Government employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND