

India set-up some time ago a Working Group on International Youth Year (IYY) whose functions were to prepare a national calendar of events as well as to coordinate and review its implementation. Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports is the Chairman of the Working Group. The Working Group, which a non-political body, includes representatives of some voluntary organisations working in the field of youth activities, other than political parties.

According to information received from the State Government and Union Territory Administration, the Governments of Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa, Manipur, UP, Punjab, Kerala, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Goa, Daman and Diu, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar have set up State level Coordinating Committees for International Youth Year. The detailed composition of the State level Committees is not available. Their function is to coordinate the observance of the International Youth Year in the State/UT concerned.

[English]

Proposals Regarding Construction Works under Forest

6752. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of proposals received in regard to construction works in Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh during the year 1984-85 for approval under the Forest Act, 1980;

(b) whether all the proposals have been accorded necessary approval; and

(c) if not, the number of proposals approved and the reasons for not approving the remaining proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Between 1-4-1984 and 31-3-1985, 60 proposals were received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for scheme and projects in Almora and Pithoragarh districts.

(b) and (c). Of these, 27 proposals have been approved. In 5 cases the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, were not attracted. The remaining 28 cases could not be finalized because the information and

data furnished by the State Government was incomplete or not in accordance with the prescribed procedure and guidelines laid down by the Central Government.

[Translation]

Representation for Declaring Goswami Caste as Backward

6753. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received proposal to declare the people belonging to Goswami Gusayin (Giri) caste as backward class people;

(b) if so, the time by which the people of Goswami (Giri) Caste will be declared as Scheduled Tribe;

(c) whether he is aware that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has notified this caste as backward class; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not providing such facilities to them as are being extended to backward and Scheduled Tribe people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). The Government do not seem to have received any proposal to declare the people belonging to Goswami Gusayin (Giri) Caste as other Backward Class. The proposal to declare Goswami (Giri) cases as Scheduled Tribe along with other such proposals are being considered in the context of the proposed comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as any amendment in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be done only through an Act of Parliament in view of Articles 341(2) and 342(2) of the Constitution. Government of Uttar Pradesh have, however, notified, "Gosain" as backward class. They have further clarified that 'Giris' will be considered as belonging to the backward class in Kumaon area. The concessions and facilities as admissible to backward and Scheduled Tribe people would be extended to Goswami Gusayin (Giri) only if they are included in the list of backward class/Scheduled Tribes.

"Pollution by Fertilizer Factory of D. C. M. Kota (Rajasthan)"

6754. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether discharge of industrial effluence in the Banganga river by the fertilizer factory of the Delhi Cloth Mills. Kota (Rajasthan) is causing pollution resulting in heavy loss to agricultural production; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check this pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). According to the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, no survey has been carried out to assess the effect of pollutants on agricultural production. The effluents of the factory are being discharged into Kansua Nalla (not Banganga) which is causing some pollution. The industry has submitted a report to the Rajasthan State Board on how it proposes to check the pollution. The consent to the industry has been refused by the Rajasthan Board. The Board is contemplating legal proceedings against the Industry.

Lions in Dara Game Sanctuary

6755. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of lions in Dara Game Sanctuary in Kota (Rajasthan); and

(b) whether the Union Government have any programme to develop Dara Game Sanctuary ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) No lions are known to exist in the Dara Sanctuary neary Kota in Rajasthan.

(b) The establishment and management of sanctuaries is the direct responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, some financial assistance by the central government is provided under a Centrally sponsored scheme for the development of selected sanctuaries. During 1984-85, an amount of Rs. 55,000 only was provided to the State Government of Rajasthan for the development of Dara Sanctuary.

Exploration of Mineral Deposits in Forests

6756. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are abundant mineral deposits in reserved and unreserved forest areas of the country;

(b) whether the law relating to forests is causing hinderance in the exploitation of these minerals resulting in loss of crores of rupees in the form of revenue; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Some mineral deposits are found in forest areas of the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. But preservation of environment is of paramount importance than the meagre economic benefits. However permission is given wherever feasible.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Eligibility for Promotion to Senior Level Posts

6757. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any guidelines that merit as reflected in confidential reports should be treated as an important factor in deciding eligibility for promotion to senior levels in Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that some officers who had adverse/poor entries in their CRs during the last 5 years' have been recently cleared by the UPSC and the appointments committee for promotion to the level of Joint Secretaries in some of the departments like Post and Telegraphs etc.; and

(c) if so, whether any action is contemplated to rectify the mistake taken place in selection of the concerned officers as well as the steps taken to prevent such irregularities in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND