

under implementation in Bihar with financial assistance of Rs. 42.65 crores from Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA). The project involves a total investment of Rs. 53.86 crores over a period of 6 years from 1984-85, for raising plantations on 157.950 ha. and distribution of 205 million seedlings to the public.

(b) and (c) Similar Social Forestry Projects with SIDA assistance are also operational in the States of Orissa and Tamil Nadu. The Orissa project involves an outlay of Rs 23 03 crores over a period of 5 years from 1983-84 for raising plantation on 63,000 ha. and distribution of 51 million seedlings.

The Tamil Nadu Social Forestry Project envisages an outlay of Rs. 45 00 crores over a period of 5 years from 1981-82, for raising plantations on 176.450 ha. and distribution of 50.1 million seedlings to the public. The project has been extended for a period of 2 years upto 1987-88 with the outlay increased to Rs. 48 6 crores.

Discussions are on with SIDA for other Projects for assistance, which would subserve the objectives of the National Wastelands Development Programme.

Acceptance of examination fees of UPSC and SSC through bank drafts

1253. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to accept the examination fees of Staff Selection Commission and Union Public Service Commission through nationalised banks ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) No, Sir. The UPSC and SSC have already been accepting examination fees through Bank

Drafts drawn on the State Bank of India and even other nationalised banks. The candidates have also the option to remit the fee through Indian Postal Orders or by affixing Central Recruitment fee Stamps introduced recently.

(b) The existing facilities have been found to be adequate.

Percentage of posts reserved for disabled

1254. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state whether the Union Government have urged the State Governments to reserve certain percentage of posts for disabled persons in State services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) Yes, Sir. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to consider reserving 3% of posts in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in State Government Services and public undertakings under them, for physically handicapped.

Proposals for reforms in functioning of major stock exchange

1255. SHRI D. N. REDDY :

SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any proposal for introducing reforms in the functioning of the stock exchanges ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also proposed to set up a headquarter of Stock Exchanges located in Delhi to liaise among the stock exchanges and Government and also with Companies ; and