

in the areas highly concentrated by the chemical and gas based industries in central and south Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

#### Illegal Sale of Babies

6720. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether sale of babies of destitute and abandoned mothers living in rescue homes is on increase ;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has recently issued any directives to the State Governments in this regard ;

(c) the names of the States from where cases of illegal adoption of destitute children have been reported with State-wise figures ; and

(d) the details of steps proposed in the light of the Supreme Court directives ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (c) No such information is available.

(b) and (d) The Supreme Court has recently given some directives to be followed in cases of adoption of children. Pursuant to these directives a number of agencies have been recognised or enlisted within the country and abroad to process such cases.

#### Vacant Posts of Joint Secretaries

6721. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of vacancies at the Centre at the level of Joint Secretaries and in public sector undertakings of 'A' and 'C' categories ;

(b) for how long they have been vacant and its effect on administration ; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to fill up the vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) No definite percentage of vacancies can be indicated as the number of vacancies fluctuates from day to day. However, alternative/officiating arrangements are invariably made to ensure that the work does not suffer.

Advance action is initiated so that, as far as possible, the posts do not remain vacant. In the case of vacancies in the public sector under takings the Public Enterprises Selection Board has made it a point to meet twice a week to consider Selections to these vacancies.

[*Translation*]

#### Commission to Agents on Savings Certificates

6722. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to raise the amount of commission paid to commission agents on sale of various types of savings certificates ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing rates of commission on sale of various types of Saving Certificates are considered adequate.

[*English*]

#### Profits of Commercial Banks

6723. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of profit earned by each commercial bank in the country during the last three years, year-wise ; and