

issues of environmental management. It envisages National Environmental Engineering Research Institute's assistance to ONGC in assessment of Impact on Environment of Offshore and Onshore areas of drilling operation, oil and gas processing projects, as well as oil and gas transporting pipelines. Technical assistance will be provided for microbial degradation of sludge emanating from Crude oil and treatment and safe disposal methods for waste generated during oil drilling and production activity.

House Tax in Delhi

1038. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA/Delhi Municipal Corporation have any formula for the calculation and determination of the House Tax on new construction in the Union Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in most cases the fixation is arbitrary and without any rational basis and the owners have to launch appeals/protest for rectification in the application of this formula; and

(d) the number of such appeals/protests launched during the financial year 1987-88 and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d). The property tax is calculated on the percentage of rateable value. This is applicable to new as well as old constructions. Each year MCD publishes an assessment list and invite objections from the public. These are disposed off by the MCD. The appeal against such assessments can be filed before the District Judge, The number of such appeals filed in 1987-88 is 2357 of which 1609 appeals were disposed off during the year.

Welfare Programmes for Tribal Community in Gujarat

1039. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress in regard to the welfare of tribal community in the country and particularly in Gujarat is very slow; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government propose to release more funds for the purpose and issue instructions to the State Governments to give special attention towards the welfare of the tribals in the State ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI-SUMATI ORAON) : (a) While there has been good progress in implementation of tribal welfare programmes in the country, including Gujarat, a lot more remains to be done.

(b) Flow of funds from the State plan to Tribal sub-plan as well as the quantum of Special Central Assistance released to the States for tribal welfare schemes have increased over the years. Tribal sub-plan of each State/UT is reviewed annually and instructions are issued to State Governments from time to time to take necessary corrective measures so that benefits of welfare schemes reach the tribals.

Funding of C.S.I.R. Laboratories

1040. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any formulae for funding of the various laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has been evolved ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its financial implications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No new formula has been evolved for allocation of funds to the laboratories.

(b) Does not arise.

Aims and Objectives of JCM

1041. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) the aims and objectives of the Institution of Joint Consultative Machinery Scheme; when was it introduced and the reasons thereof;

(b) whether the aims and objectives have been achieved;

(c) if not, the steps taken to improve the scheme;

(d) whether regular and timely meeting of the joint consultative committees at office levels, departmental levels and national levels are being held ;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to ensure the holding of meetings regularly and issuing minutes thereof promptly; and

(f) the number of meetings of the national and departmental councils in Delhi held during the last three years, year-wise and department-wise and the main achievements of these meetings ?

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) The JCM Scheme has been introduced with the objects of (i) promoting harmonious relations, (ii) securing the greatest measure of cooperation between the Govt. in its capacity as employer, and the general body of its employees in matters of common concern and (iii) increasing the efficiency of the public service. The Scheme was introduced in October, 1966 *inter-alia* to provide for abjuration of agitational methods by the staff unions/associations for redressal of their grievances.

(b) and (c). The J.C.M. Scheme has been functioning satisfactorily.

(d) and (e). The meetings of the Joint Councils at Office, departmental and national levels are generally held regularly. At times, however, these meetings could not be held at the desired frequency for want of Agenda items, non-availability of requisite number of Staff Side Members in the Joint Council concerned, rivalry among the recognised unions/associations, friction amongst the groups in the same

recognised union etc. There are a few occasions when the councils could not meet, as the senior officers in the Ministries/Departments got preoccupied with unavoidable and important business. Notwithstanding this instructions have been issued from time to time by this Department to all nodal Ministries/Departments impressing upon them the need to ensure that the meetings of the JCM forums are held regularly. Except in very few instances, the Minutes of the meetings have been issued promptly.

(f) At the national level, five meetings of the National Council of the JCM have been held during the last 3 years on the dates indicated below :

(i) 10th/11th July, 1985.

(ii) 14th/15th January, 1986.

(iii) 29th/30th July, 1986.

(iv) 7.2.1987.

(v) 18th/19th August, 1987.

(iv) Another meeting of the National Council is to be held on 19th August, 1988.

As regards, the Departmental Council meetings, the requisite information is being collected.

The information regarding the achievements in the meetings of the National Council and Departmental Councils in Delhi is also being collected.

Purchase of Hotel at Macca for Haj Pilgrims

1042. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have purchased a hotel for Haj pilgrims at Macca;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that every haj is required to stay in that hotel compulsorily ; and

(d) if so, the reasons for there ?