

allocation of profits to the Reserve Fund. This anomaly is proposed to be removed by amendment to the bye-laws at the general body meeting of the Society which will take place on 5th March, 1982. An upto date copy of the bye-laws of the Society will be laid on the Table of the House thereafter. The Annual Report, and the Audited Statement of Accounts for the year 1979-80 were laid on the Table of the House on 8th May, 1981 and the same for 1980-81 will be laid on the Table of the House during the current session.

### Setting up of Entrepreneurial Board

527. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the steps taken to set up the following:

(i) Entrepreneurial Board to link underemployed and unemployed scientists and technologists and under utilised credit facilities;

(ii) Biotechnology Board to coordinate research in genetic engineering and to lessen the use of oil, pesticides, fertilisers etc.; and

(iii) Consortium of survey organisations for indentifying the areas of under exploited development potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH):

(i), (ii) and (iii) Entrepreneurship Board and Biotechnology Board have since been set up vide DST Resolution Nos. F. 200019/1/82-Admn. I dated 18-1-1982 and F. 20019/2/82-Admn. I dated 18-1-1982 respectively. Copies of which have already been placed on the Table of the House on 19-2-1982. It is also envisaged to set up a Consortium of Survey Organisations for the exploitation and optimum utilisation of the natural resources of the country.

### Diversion of Fund By States for non-Plan Schemes

528. SHRI RAL KRISHNA WASNIK:

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI B. D. SINGH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Planning Commission that some of the States are diverting plan funds for non-plan schemes;

(b) what are the names of such States and the extent of amount so diverted by them; and

(c) the action taken by the Planning Commission in this regard to ensure that plan-funds are not diverted for non-plan schemes?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). From the information made available by the States except West Bengal, no such diversion has been noticed. In the case of West Bengal, detailed information about the plan expenditure has not yet been received.

(c) A specific procedure regarding the diversion of funds from earmarked sectors/projects/schemes in the approved Annual Plans as also, for regulating shortfalls in overall Plan expenditure has been laid down by the Planning Commission. In the year end, adjustment proposals received from the States, these matters are taken care of.

### Strike in Public Sector Industries in Bangalore

530. SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated loss due to eighty days strike by Public Sector Industries' workers in Bangalore; and

(b) have Government taken any steps to bring about parity regarding financial benefits to all labourers working in public sector industries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) According to available information, the estimated loss in production due to the strike in the Bangalore based enterprises was around Rs. 2 crores per day.

(b) The Government while approving wage revision proposals, is taking care to eliminate unjustified distortions and to rationalise the pay structure.

### Earth Quake in Nicobar

531. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the loss of life and property due to earth-quake in Nicobar in January, 1982; and

(b) the measures of assistance and relief rendered to the victims of the calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

### Statement

No loss of life has been reported on account of earth tremors recently experienced in the island of Great Nicobar and certain other nearby places in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Damage to property is estimated at about Rs. 8 lakhs which includes damage to private buildings estimated at Rs. 15,680/-.

2. A team of officers including medical officers was sent from Port Blair to Great Nicobar by ship which carried medicines, tent and food supplies. Later on another naval ship also joined

the relief work. Scientists from Earthquake Engineering Department of Roorkee University have also visited the island of Great Nicobar.

3. Free rations for 6 days were provided to almost the entire population of Great Nicobar. Medicines, first aid equipment, vaccines and chemicals for purification of water were also provided. 84 tents and 40 tarpaulias were also made available for use in the area. Some women and children were temporarily shifted to Port Blair. They were given free passage and food.

4. Rupees 2 lakhs have been given from Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Gift items worth about Rs. 12 thousand received from several voluntary organisation in Port Blair were distributed to the affected people.

### Deployment of Agents in Ministries by Big Business Houses

532. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since inquired into the liaison activities of the big business houses like Birlas, Tatas, Dalmias in the capital during the last 5 years who are keeping their paid agents in every Ministry to enable them to get information about their business; and

(b) if not reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) Government are not aware of the presence of paid agents of big business houses in every Ministry. However, one case of leakage of secret information from the Ministry of Petroleum Chemical & Fertilizers has come to notice, which is under Investigations Departmental Security Instructions already exist, which contain modelities of handling secret papers.