

(iii) To act as a focal point for the dissemination of all knowledge relating to disaster management and be the catalyst of development and relief activities.

The Group has further added that the National Institute should, under no circumstances, duplicate the activities of the existing training and research institutions. Further, while the State Governments will be primarily responsible for all aspects of disaster preparedness management and prevention, the responsibility of the Central Government for the overall guidance and supervision of this task will rest with the National Institute which is proposed by the Group.

Air Pollution Positing Health Hazard

6286. SHRI HARINATH MISRA:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(aa) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item under the caption "Air Pollution posing health hazard" as published in the Times of India dated 6th February, 1982:

(b) if so, whether Prof. J. M. Dave, Dean School of Environmental Sciences Jawaharlal Nehru University Act, enacted out that the Air Pollution Act, enacted last year suffers from various lacunae; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction to each of the difficulties pointed out by Prof. Dave and the remedial measures that have been taken or are proposed to be taken in this connection?

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

(b) Yes Sir. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 has come

into force in May, 1981, while the rules under the Act are still being framed for notification. There has not thus been adequate opportunity, so far to test the legislation.

(c) The suggestions made by Prof. Dave have however, been noted, and necessary action will be taken if the existing provision of law are found to be inadequate to prevent and control air pollution.

Recovery of House Tax Dues by the Revenue Recovery Cell of Delhi Municipal Corporation

6287. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Municipal Corporation directs the Revenue Recovery Cell to recover the House Tax dues;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the inventories of dues thus collected by the Recovery Cell, Karol Bagh, are either not reaching the Corporation (West Zone) or being sent with wrong entries causing lot of harassment to the Tax Payers in whose accounts the dues remain outstanding even after they have paid fully:

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is inadequacy of staff in Municipal Corporation (West Zone) in Property Tax Collecting Branch; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b). The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that the Central Recovery Cell at Karol Bagh collects dues of Property Taxes in arrears. A copy of the challan for the payments received indicating details of the properties and the payments