

**Compensation from foreign insurance company for failure of INSAT**

508. SHRI ERA ANBARASU:

SHRI N. E. HORO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would be getting Rs. 60 crores from the foreign Insurance Company for the failure of INSAT before the prescribed period; and

(b) what alternative arrangements have been made for getting scientific weather forecasts etc., in the absence of INSAT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) The Government expects to receive full payment of the Total Loss Agreed value of US \$ 64.9 million from the Insurers for the Total Loss of INSAT-IA Spacecraft as per terms of the Launch All Risks Insurance cover. The Insurers for INSAT-IA are the New India Assurance Company Limited of India. However, they have reinsured bulk of the risk in foreign re-insurance markets. The Insurers have been notified of the 'Total Loss' under the policy.

(b) Geo-stationary meteorological imageries and data relay provided by INSAT-IA were one among many inputs that go into making of weather forecasts. No other geo-stationary meteorological satellite imaging capability over Indian Ocean region with land and sea mass coverage of our interest is available. As such, until INSAT-IB is successfully launched and brought into operation, we would only have satellite meteorological imageries available from orbiting meteorological satellites of USA and USSR.

**Vacant post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

509. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has remained vacant for more than ten months;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to fill the vacancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question of filling up post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be decided after a decision is taken whether both the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are to continue or any one of them.

The whole question is under active consideration of the Government.

**Inferior quality of Pozzolana Cement**

510. SHRI BHERAVADAN K. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pozzolana cement produced by the indigenous industries is of very inferior quality;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any remedial measures for this;

(c) whether Government are thinking to prohibit the manufacture of Pozzolana