

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The principal recommendation of the Tiwari Committee report was the creation of a Department of Environment at the centre, with the following responsibilities:

(1) Serving as 'nodal' agency for environmental protection and eco-development in a coordinating role.

(2) Carrying out environmental appraisal of development projects.

(3) Direct administrative responsibility for

(i) Pollution Monitoring and Regulation;

(ii) Conservation of Critical Ecosystems designated as Biosphere Reserves, National Parks Sanctuaries as well as Wildlife and its habitat.

(iii) Conservation of Marine Ecosystems.

Other recommendations of the report related to the areas of environmental monitoring, environmental education and land use; setting up of legal cell, National Committee on Environmental Planning (NCEP), Biosphere reserved; conservation of marine eco-systems and creation of environmental advisers in Ministries/agencies; creation of appropriate agencies in states to deal with environmental matters.

(b) Conservation, and reuse of water, increasing vegetative cover, afforestation and restoration of fallow land are some of the measures undertaken for prevention and control of soil erosion. Central support is also extended to carry out soil conservation, research and land use merits of river valley projects and flood watersheds etc. Stabilisation of catchments of river valley projects and flood prone rivers is in progress. Special efforts on soil conservation, afforestation and pasture development is also in progress. Pilot projects have been implemented in

respect of areas affected by alkalinity and subject to shifting cultivation. These have all been comprehensively covered by the setting up a National Land Board, and National Land Resources, conservation, and Development Commission, February 1983, and the corresponding land use Boards in Western State:

Grant of Pension to I. N. Personnel Undergone Detention in Camps Abroad

2814. **SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVAL:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether none of the I. N. A. personnel who claimed to have undergone detention in some camps abroad have been granted pension on the ground that such persons could not produce Co-prisoner's certificate from competent persons from the same camps;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from the I. N. A. personnel to the effect, that such persons should be allowed to produce Co-prisoner's certificate from a pensioner, who had undergone detention in a neighbouring camp; and

(c) whether Government, realising that such INA personnels from certain detention camps, could not produce Co-prisoner's certificate from persons from the said camps as none is the recipient of the Swatantrata sainik Samman pension therefrom, propose to relax the rules and accept the Co-prisoner's certificate issued by pensioners from neighbouring detention camps considering their sacrifice for the Nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. Co-prisonership in the same camps is an essential ingredient for the acceptance of the certificate.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At present there is no proposal to relax the rules.