

Programme

Districts

2) Tribal Development Programme.

3 Tehsils of Phulbani district and 2 blocks of Kalahandi district,

3) Scheme of concessional finance for development of Industrially Backward Districts

Kalahandi, Phulbani and Belangir districts.

4) Scheme of Central Investment Subsidy for Development of Industrially Backward Districts/ areas.

Kalahandi and Bolangir Districts.

Location Of Copper Smelter In Balaghat (Madhya Pradesh)

8229. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES; be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Madhya Pradesh had suggested Balaghat for the location of a Copper smelter in the Central sector, when the Prime Minister visited the State in July last year; and

(b) if so the decision of Government in that regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SPRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) On the occasion of inauguration of Malanjhand Copper Project by the Prime Minister on 12.11.1982, Shri Tejlal Tembhare, Minister of Agriculture & Backward Classes, Government of Madhya Pradesh requested for location of a copper smelter in Balaghat in his speech.

(b) The concentrates produced at Malanjhand are presently being treated in the smelter at Khetri Copper Complex, Rajasthan. This is being done taking into account the available smelting and refining capacities at Khetri. Detailed geological investigations are proposed to be carried out to find if there are sufficient additional reserves to sustain smelter locally. At present there is no proposal to set up a smelter plant at Malanjhand.

Raising Of Retirement Age

8230. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS; be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of raising the age of superannuation of Government employees has been under consideration of Government for some time;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) the main considerations for which the age of superannuation is proposed to be raised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SARI P. VENKATA SUBBAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

70th Session of Indian Science Congress

8231. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 70th Session of the Indian Science Congress Association was inaugurated by the Prime Minister at Tirupathi on January 3, 1983, which considered the question of Man and Ocean resource on Development:

(b) if so, whether dangers of incursions by big powers into Indian Ocean were voiced threat;

(c) what were the main observations and recommendations of the Science Congress Association made at that Session; and

(d) Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL)? (a) Yes, Sir, The Focal Theme of the 70th Session of the Science Congress was "Man and the Ocean—Resources and Development.

(b) The Prime Minister in her inaugural speech at the Science Congress Session mentioned about "Incursions by outside military powers and significance of the sea around us for our security and development." However, there were no discussions at the session on the dangers of incursion by big powers into Indian Ocean. The deliberations at the Science Congress Sessions are generally of a scientific/technical nature.

(c) Some of the main recommendations made were: creating awareness about Ocean and its potential as source of food, minerals, oils and energy; encourage underwater explorations; evolve interdisciplinary, inter-institutional mechanisms; estimate manpower requirements for Ocean Science and Technology provide support for research programmes in this area to undertake a systematic survey of the ocean resources particularly in the continental shelf, design indigenous instruments; formulate legislative measures to control the pollution of sea; improve the existing techniques for ocean studies and develop new ones: research work particularly to be carried out on acoustics of sea animals, marine pharmacology, Isotope oceanography, Food protein technology and Plankton food and extensive studies to be carried out for measuring,

monitoring and elimination of toxic effluents.

(d) Government have taken note of the recommendations and are taking steps to circulate them widely among the various Scientific Departments/agencies so that these could be taken into account in formulating their Research Programmes/activities, Through the mechanism of an Inter-Ministrial Task Force under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DST, the extent of implementation of the Annual Science Congress recommendations on the Focal Theme of each session is reported at the next session. A Report on the action taken on the recommendations of the 70th Session relating to "Man and the Ocean Resources & Development" is expected to be released at the next Science Congress in January, 1984.

Assent to Kerala Bills

8232. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many Bills passed by the Government of Kerala are still pending with Central Government for President's assent;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) when the assent to each of these Bills is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATA SUBBAIAH) : (a) & (b) As on 20.4.1983, the following three Bills are pending for the assent of of the President:

(i) The Kerala Casual, Temporary and Badli Workers (Wages) Bill, 1977.

(ii) The Public Property (Prevention of Destruction and Loss Bill, 1978.

(iii) The Kerala Cashew Wor-