

The position in regard to funds for 1983-84 will emerge after finalisation of 1983-84 Tribal sub-Plans.

(c) An amount of Rs. 95 crores was provided as Special central assistance for the Tribal sub-Plan areas in the year 1982-83 to the above States/Union Territories. The Special central assistance for 1983-84 is expected to be Rs. 105 crores.

(d) The funds earmarked by Central Ministries/Departments for Tribal Sub-Plan Areas were as under:—

Year	Funds earmarked (about Rs. in lakhs)
1980-85	14759
1980-81	1390
1981-82	2852
1982-83	2900
1983-84	Annual budget not yet passed.

Appointment of commissioner for scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes

669. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

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 is lying vacant since the retirement of the last Commissioner;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in appointing a new Commissioner by the Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the post of a member in Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes yet to be filled up in the place of a retired tribal member of the Commission; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Government propose to appoint the member in the Commission?

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

(b) The question of filling up the post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes will be decided after a decision is taken on the related issue of whether both Commissioner for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes and Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are to continue or only any one of them. The whole question is under active consideration.

(c) The post of member in the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has since been filled up by appointment of Shri Hokishe Sema as member in the Commission from 24-8-81 who belongs to Scheduled Tribe.

(d) Question does not arise.

Separate department for SC/ST

670. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have considered the recommendations made by the Commissions and Committees on creation of a separate Department for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes development in the Ministry of Home Affairs;

(b) if so, the reasons and the necessity of such a Department justified in their recommendations;

(c) whether his Ministry agree with their views;

(d) if so, the obstacles and difficulties coming in the way to create the Department for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(e) the time by which Government are likely to take a decision in this regard?

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

(b) to (e). The question is under
active consideration of the Government.

Resolving of Punjab problems

671. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:
SHRI CHATURBHUI:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP
SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made during the past three months in resolving the issues involved in the so-called Punjab agitations and the matters connected with the so-called Sikh demands;

(b) whether any formula for division of Chandigarh between Punjab and Haryana without transfer of Fazilka etc. to Haryana was mooted; if so, Central Government's stand in this regard;

(c) how many times Government representatives and Akalis representatives met to settle the demands and the outcome thereof;

(d) the names of the States whose interests are involved in Punjab problem and the details of the problems about which other States and parties have submitted their cases with a view to protect their interests; and

(e) whether both the States of Haryana and Rajasthan will be associated with the talks to be held with Akalis for meeting their demands in solving the Punjab problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) A
good deal of progress has been made in
this regard. However, a final understanding
on various issues is yet to be reached.

(b) This suggestion has been informally proposed, among several other proposals by the various parties involved in the discussions. Various formulations have been considered and are still under consideration.

(c) 10 times since January 11, 1982. Talks are still inconclusive;

(d) Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Haryana is involved in the issue regarding territorial claims and also the sharing of the Ravi-Beas waters. Rajasthan's involvement is with regard to the sharing of river waters.

(e) Both the States have already been involved in the talks.

Solar battery charger developed by C.E.L.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Electronics Limited has lately developed a solar battery charger capable of being used in the operation of electronic equipments like T.V., radio sets community lighting systems;

(b) if so, the salient features of the battery charger; and

(c) the details of the production programme for this equipment so as to commercialise it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY,
SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN
DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V.
PATIL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The
Central Electronics Ltd. has developed
Solar Photovoltaic Modules| Systems for
various applications. These modules-along-
with the electronic charge controller can
be used for charging batteries. The above
system can be used to charge batteries for
operating TV, Radio Set and Community
Lighting System. Further, CEL has devel-
oped Solar Power Pack with built in bat-
tery which can be used for operating
Radio|Tape-Recorders (Two in-one) as
well as serving as Torch Light in rural