

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Medical Store Depots Investigated by CBI

5896. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Senior Medical Officer incharge of Medical Store Depot of various systems of medicines of CGHS have written to CBI to inquire into the past records of their Store Depots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any investigation has been made by CBI;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether these officers are empowered to write to CBI directly without obtaining the prior permission of their department;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the policies of the Government in this regard; and

(h) the action taken against those officer for violating the rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (h) In view of (a) above, the questions do not arise.

Setting up of Mobile Courts

5897. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Mobile Courts exclusively to punish the accused persons involved in committing rapes and atrocities on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government. However, according to information received from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Special Courts set up under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 in some States are Mobile.

[Translation]

Research and Development Activities

5898. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the policy formulated to make investment by the private sector/foreign collaboration/joint venture in the field of hydrocarbon, petroleum and natural Gas particularly in regard to the seismic survey conducted for exploration research drilling refining and other related areas during the last three years;

(b) the target fixed in areas or the purpose for which indigenisation of research and development activities were undertaken during Eighth Plan;

(c) whether the work has already been started in the targeted areas;

(d) do so, the details regarding nature of work being undertaken gas-reserves found and estimated production year-wise during the above period alongwith the details of private and foreign companies engaged therein; and

(e) the extent to which the import in this regard is likely to be reduced as a result of these activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Inclusion of Tanti Community In the List of SC

5899. SHRI RAMJIDAS RISHIDEV : Will the Minister of SOCIAL & JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Scheduled Caste Amendment Bill for inclusion of Tanti Community of Bihar is pending;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the Bill is kept pending;

(c) whether the Government have received any recommendations from Bihar for inclusion of Tanti (Khatwe) community of Bihar in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(e) whether Tanti of South Bihar are listed as Scheduled Caste and called as Pan Tanti in South Bihar and choupal in North Bihar; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not getting S.C. facilities by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

(e) Tanti has not been listed as Scheduled Caste in Bihar. According to a report of Govt. of Bihar. Tantis of South Bihar are called as Pan Tantis and of Pumea as Choupals.

(f) The matter of treating Tantis as Scheduled Caste is under the consideration of the Government.

NHRC Guidelines for Protective Homes & Mental Hospitals

5900. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had entrusted the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) with the responsibility of supervising and monitoring the functioning of protective Homea dnd Mental Hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the Protective Homes and the Mental Hospitals covered in the studies;

(c) whether on the basis of these studies, the NHRC has framed and issued nodal guidelines for improving the functioning of these Home and Mental Hospitals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Torture of Nepali Citizens

5901. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nepali citizens living in Assam

and other areas of North-Eastern States are being tortured and uprooted;

(b) if so, whether they are being turned away from Shrirampur and other check post of Assam;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Police at Assam check posts torture these Nepali citizens overnight to extract money from them and a lot of difficulties are faced by them to visit Kamakhya Devi temple; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) According to information furnished by the State Government no such cases have been reported.

However, citizens of Nepal entering India without valid documents are being detected and pushed back through Shrirampur check gate their Foreigners Act, 1946.

[English]

Protection of Rights

5902. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government have implemented the Equal Opportunities Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act 1955 so far;

(b) whether the Government have apprised the necessity of the implementation of the Act to States;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Many State Governments have implemented several provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 concerning them. The implementation of the Act is an ongoing process.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment and senior officers of the Ministry have been writing to the Chief Ministers/Chief Secretary/Secretary and other officials of the State Governments emphasizing the need for creating the necessary institutional arrangements and infrastructure for ensuring the speedy implementation of the Act. The State Governments were also advised to take a