

3. All members of the National Committee for commemorating the Tri-Centenary of the Birth of Khalsa.
4. Prime Minister's Office with reference to their U.O. No. 580/31/C/25/98-ES/2 dated 24th November, 1998.
5. PS to Minister of Human Resource Development.
6. PS to Minister of State (E&C).
7. PPS to Secretary (Culture).
8. PS to US(S).
9. DPIO, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, New Delhi (10 Copies).

(S. Sathymoorthy)
Joint Secretary

[Translation]

Abolition of Discretionary Quotas

3432. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued directions to the Government to abolish all types of discretionary-quotas of MPs and Ministers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has not issued any general directions regarding abolition of all types of discretionary quotas of MPs and Ministers. However, in writ petition No. 585/94-Shiv Sagar Tiwari Vs. UOI, the Supreme Court on 23rd Dec., 1996 has put a ceiling of 5% on the Ministers' quota for allotment of Government houses. In this case, the Supreme Court has also directed to frame the guidelines for exercise of discretionary quota. The guidelines have since been framed by the Ministry of Urban Development. In the writ petition No. 886 of 1993, Centre for Public Interest Litigation Vs. UOI and another, the Supreme Court on 31.3.1995 has laid down certain guidelines to regulate discretionary allotments of petroleum products agencies. In that case the Supreme Court has also directed that the number of discretionary allotments should not ordinarily extend 10% of the average annual marketing plan of which allotments of retail outlets for petroleum products should not normally exceed 5%.

Contribution to Road Transport Corporations

3433. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will be Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contribution being given to Road Transport Corporations of the country by the Union and concerned State Governments has been discontinued; and

(b) if so, the date from which it has been discontinued and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

Share of Chandigarh from BBMB

3434. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Territory of Chandigarh is a 'Succeeding State' under the Punjab Re-organisation Act 1966 and hence is entitled to its share in the power being produced by the Bhakra Beas Management Board like the states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to give Union Territory of Chandigarh its due share in the power from the Bhakra Beas Management Board;

(e) if so, the rate and quantum of power Chandigarh is likely to get ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) was set up under the provisions of Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 to administer, maintain and operate the Bhakra Nangal and Beas Projects on behalf of partner States, namely Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh. The matter regarding allocation of power to successor States was decided in a meeting held on 17-4-1967 according to which Chandigarh is entitled to 3.5% of energy generated at Bhakra complex after meeting the common pool requirement and share of Rajasthan.

BBMB was requested in August, 1983 to accord treatment to Himachal Pradesh and Union Territory of Chandigarh on par with Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and the quantum of benefits from Bhakra and Beas projects presently allocated on ad-hoc basis will remain unaltered until a final decision is taken on the sharing of rights and liabilities of all successor States in the two projects. The issue was considered in various meetings of the BBMB and representative of Punjab Government observed that the request of Central Government to accord partnership status to Chandigarh is a matter of policy