

private palace inside the Fort, and not for the protected fort wall.

(e) and (f) Adequate compensation was paid which included funds released from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund and funds raised by the district administration.

Termination of Research Associates Posts

1842. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has terminated several Research Associates posts;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure meritorious students fulfill their research work on time?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Commission, in its meeting held on 5-6 March, 1998, decided that the existing Scheme of Research Associateship may be discontinued till the end of the IXth Five Year Plan due to constraints of financial resources. However, the existing Research Associates working under the Scheme may continue upto the tenure stipulated under the present guidelines. These Research Associateships are awarded by UGC for doing post-doctoral work.

(c) The positions of Research Associates would continue to be available under the Schemes of Major Research Projects, Special Assistance Programme and other quality improvement programmes under their respective grants. These would be ad-hoc contractual positions for the period of the project.

Master Plan for Afforestation

1843. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Wild life experts to visit Punjab" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated May 13, 1998;

(b) whether the team will also visit Anandpur Sahib to prepare a Master Plan for launching Afforestation Safari Project;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard and composition of the Team; and

(d) the funds allocated for each Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The team will visit Anandpur Sahib for preparing Master Plan of a Herbivore Safari.

(c) The team will consist of Shri Pushp Kumar, Consultant to the Central Zoo Authority and Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority.

(d) The requirement of funds for the project has not yet been finalised.

Copyright Act

1844. SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to make the Copyright Act effective; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Copyright Act, 1957 was comprehensively amended in 1994 to make it very effective. The Act provides for both civil and criminal remedies and stringent punishments for copyright infringement. It also provides for registration of copyright societies for collective administration of copyrights.

Arambagh Telephone Exchange

1845. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken any steps to bring Arambagh Telephone Exchange under the Calcutta Telephones network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?