

**Treatment of Sewage**

6181. SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in large number of towns in the country there is no sewage facility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this untreated sewage is being dumped into the rivers thus polluting them;
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for setting up sewage treatment alongwith the facility in all the towns of each State; and
- (e) the amount allocated for the purpose during the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) As per the draft report on status of water supply, water generation, collection, treatment and disposal in Class I cities, 1994-95 of the Central Pollution Control Board, out of 299 Class I cities in the country only about 150 cities have some sort of sewerage system benefitting about 70% population in these cities. The total waste water generated in these cities is about 15775 mld of which only 3740 mld (24%) is getting treated either through primary or secondary sewage treatment facilities.

(c) and (d) The National river Conservation Directorate (NRCD) under Ministry of Environment and Forests has stated that under the Ganga Action Plan and National River Conservation Plan it is proposed to construct sewage treatment plants in 125 towns covering 23 rivers in the country.

It has further been informed that presently untreated sewage from most of these towns is flowing into the respective rivers.

(e) NRCD, Ministry of Environment & Forests has informed that Rs. 19.12 crores have been allocated for sewerage schemes, sewerage treatment plants and other allied works.

In so far as Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment is concerned proposals for provision of sewage, sewerage treatment and drainage facilities in the urban areas have been sent to Planning Commission.

**Unlicensed Gold Refineries**

6182. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the report of the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, a number of unlicensed gold

refineries are engaged in the refining of smuggled gold in certain areas of the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action has been taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Information collected by the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau indicated the existence of some unlicensed refineries engaged in the refining of Gold in various commercial and residential premises in Delhi. Acting on specific information two unlicensed refineries were detected on 16.2.97 in Karol Bagh by the CEIB jointly with the Directorate of Enforcement and recovery of foreign exchange and gold effected. Since these refineries located in multistoreyed commercial buildings were using hazardous substances such as spirit, acid and other chemicals, the facts were reported to the Environment Ministry and MCD for taking appropriate action.

**Clearance to Proposals**

6183. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the numbers of proposals of Maharashtra Government regarding water supply to Greater Mumbai and other parts of the city pending for clearance; and
- (b) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) One proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra, viz. the Bombay IV Middle Vaitarna Water Supply project for augmenting water supply to Greater Mumbai.

(b) The proposal has been recommended by this Ministry to the Department of Economic Affairs for exploring the possibility of obtaining external assistance from the World Bank. The Government of Maharashtra has also been requested to obtain the clearances of the Ministries of Water Resources, Environment and Forests, Planning Commission and the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation.

**Privatisation of Industries**

6184. SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) the manner in which Government propose to exercise control over the large number of industries which are being/privatised with a view to safe guard the interests of the labour force working in such industries;
- (b) the number of industries/corporation privatised, so far in Bihar; and
- (c) the manner in which the labour force in the

country at large is going to be benefited by privatisation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The existing labour laws such as the Industrial Disputes Act, the Payment of Wages Act, etc. provide, inter-alia, measures for safeguarding the interests of the labour force in industries including those which are being privatised. Such privatised industries are subject to the same rules and regulations as are applicable to other similar industries in the private sector.

(b) No information about the number of industries/corporations privatised so far in Bihar is available.

(c) The benefits of privatisation for the labour force will depend on the manner in which it is undertaken in individual cases and it is not possible to draw general conclusions on the effect on labour force in the country.

#### **Expenditure Management Commission**

6185. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision to appoint an Expenditure Management Commission was taken nearly eight months ago

(b) if so, whether the Commission has been functioning; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to start function ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Expenditure Management and Reforms Commission which was proposed in the Budget speech 1996-97 has not yet been set up. As its constitution is dependent on getting the consent of the appropriate members, no particular time has been set for its constitution.

#### **Nomination Facilities in Share Certificates**

6186. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no nomination facility in share certificates;

(b) if so, whether on death of the share holder the successors have to bear lengthy legal formalities;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide nomination facility similar to post office deposit schemes or the 'Either or Survivor' provision on bank pattern to the shareholders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Working Group set up by the Government to re-write to draft of the new Companies Act has recommended to provide for facility of nomination to share/debenture holders of the companies. A provision to this effect finds place in the Working Draft of the Companies Bill (vide Section 74) submitted by the Working Group, and already released for public debate. Government proposes to implement this proposal as announced in the 1997 Budget Speech of the Finance Minister.

#### **Shortage of Court Fee Stamps**

6187. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute shortage of court fee stamps in several States for official use; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government has not received any complaint of shortage of Court fee stamps in the country during the last three years.

[Translation]

#### **Reservation in Promotion**

6188. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring Constitution Amendment in the light of the Supreme Court decision to maintain the status quo for providing benefits of promotion to SCs/STs in Government services which are coming to an end in November, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The Constitution has already been amended by Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995 and Article 16 (4A) inserted in the Constitution. This Article enables the State to make provision for reservation in promotion to any class or classes of the posts in the services under the State in favour of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, which in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented in the services under the State.