

AUGUST 6, 1997

131 *Written Answers*

- (ii) *Accelerating the growth rate of the economy with stable prices. The stability and the sustainability of the growth process require determined efforts to cut down the revenue deficits of both the Central and State Governments and to achieve a degree of fiscal balance:*
- (iii) Ensuring food and nutritional security for all, particularly the vulnerable sections of society;
- (iv) Providing the basic minimum services of safe drinking water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, shelter and connectivity to all in a time bound manner;
- (v) Empowerment of women and socially disadvantaged groups such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes and Minorities as agents of socio-economic change and development.

*[Translation]***Development of Bihar**

2335. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting with the Hon'ble Members of Parliament from Bihar was held on March 12, 1997 to discuss the issues relating to the development of State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the performance by the Bihar Government is very low in regard to the schemes sponsored by the Union Government; and
- (d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the meeting, important developmental issues like irrigation infrastructure development, giving thrust to power projects, increasing employment opportunities and education sector development were discussed.

(c) and (d) Centrally Sponsored Schemes are formulated by the Central Ministries/Departments in consultation with the State Government and are implemented by the State Governments. The Planning Commission does not have any direct role in their implementation.

*[English]***Working OF T.I.F.R.**

2336. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a Committee of International Researchers was ever appointed to evaluate the working of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research;
- (b) if so, the constitution of the Committee; and
- (c) the findings and recommendations made by the Committee?

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) and (b) The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), the Premier Scientific Research Institution in the fields of Physics, Mathematics and allied sciences, is an Autonomous Institution supported by the Department of Atomic Energy. TIFR completed fifty years of research activities in 1995-96. As a sequel to the TIFR's Golden Jubilee, its Council of Management decided to invite a group of eminent scientists to review TIFR's achievements and make recommendations on, inter alia, international collaboration with other institutions, scope for greater purposeful interaction with industry in selected areas and the steps needed to enable the Institute to attract creative talent in the light of the increasing specialisation of research.

A committee consisting of the following experts visited and reviewed the working of TIFR during 13-18 January, 1997:-

- (i) Prof. Lord Porter, OM, FRS, Nobel Laureate Chairman, Centre for Petromolecular Sciences, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Imperial College, London, UK.
- (ii) Prof. D. Mumford, President of the International Mathematical Union, Division of Applied Mathematics, Brown University, Rhode Island, USA.
- (iii) Prof. Sir Arnold Wolfendale, FRS, Formerly Astronomer Royal and President of the Royal Astronomical Society, Department of Physics, University of Durham, Science Laboratories, UK.
- (iv) Prof. B.V. Sreekantan, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science