

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Government has not received complaints from Haj returnees against the goodwill team.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Reservation for OBCs

5123. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any special drive to fill up the vacancies reserved for backward classes,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the efforts made by the Government in this regard ?

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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) As the scheme for reservation for OBCs was introduced only in September, 1993, no need has been felt to launch special drive to fill up the vacancies reserved for backward classes. Instructions already exist for expeditious filling up of vacancies reserved for other backward classes by cadre controlling authorities, which is a continuous process.

[English]

#### Power Tariff

5124. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the guidelines laid down by the Government in regard to power tariff for private power sector,

(b) whether the power generated in private sector in the country is costlier than that of the power generated in public sector, and

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Central Government has issued a Tariff Notification No. S.O. 251 (E) dated 30th March, 1992 (as amended from time to time) in accordance with which the tariff for sale of electricity by Generating Company to the Boards and to other persons shall be fixed.

(b) No, Sir. The Government of India Tariff Notification is applicable to any Generating Company, either in Public Sector or in Private Sector, whose financial packages are approved on or after 30th March, 1992. The tariff of a power station is dependent upon its approved completed cost,

type, price and source of fuel, taxes & duties and year of completion and not on whether established in public or private sector.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Modification of Recognition Rules

5125. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the modifications in the new recognition rules to decide the representatives of Union/Association in Central Services for grant of recognition;

(b) whether the Government propose to negotiate with the unions on the issue before implementation of new recognition rules; 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 decide the representatives of Union/Association for grant of recognition, the following conditions have been prescribed in Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1993;

(i) In order to obtain recognition, an Association must represent a minimum of 35% of total number of a category of employees provided further that in cases where there is only one association which commands more than 35% membership another association with second highest membership, may also be recognised if it commands at least 15% membership of the specific category of employees.

(ii) The verification of membership is done by the check-off system under which the membership subscription is deducted from the pay rolls of the employees based on their written declaration.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, the process of recognition is under way in various Departments, and, in fact some associations have already been recognised under the new Rules.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of Atomic Power Project at Narayanganj

5126. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether site was examined by investigating team in 1984 for setting up a Central Atomic Power Plant at Narayanganj (Patha) in Mandala district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the team has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE

AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir. Narayanganj was not among the sites proposed by the State Government for investigation/evaluation.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Reaction of Burma with India

5127. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ascertained the reaction of Burma over the imposition of US sanctions;

(b) whether the India's relation with Burma is likely to be affected; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Allowances to Employees of Hilly Areas

5128. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide hill allowances to the employees of nationalised banks working in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Government propose to increase, the hill allowance; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has informed that the Nationalised banks provide hill & fuel allowances to employees which include hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh as per details given below :

Place	Award employees	Officers
1	2	3
1. Places situated at a height of 3000 meters and above	18% of pay subject to a maximum of Rs 450/- p.m.	15% of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 600/ p.m.
2. Places situated at a height over 1500 meters but below 3000 meters.	8% of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.	6½ of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 160/ pm.

1	2	3
3. Places situated at a height of over 1000 meters but less than 1500 meters.	6% of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 110/- p.m.	5% of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 130/- pm

Apart from the above, employees posted at places with an altitude of not less than 750 meters and which are surrounded by hills with higher altitudes which cannot be reached without crossing an altitude of 1000 meters or more are paid hill & fuel allowances at the same rate as is payable for the centres with an altitude of 1000 meters and above but less than 1500 meters.

(c) and (d) The payment of hill & fuel allowances to the employees of nationalised banks both for award staff and officers are governed by the terms of settlement and Officers' Service Regulations respectively.

[English]

#### Issuance of Passport and Visa

5129. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that many Embassies and High Commissions now refuse to honour passports with additional sheets and stamp visas on them; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with those foreign countries/instructed the passport issuing authorities to provide fresh passports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) It has been brought to Government's notice that some Embassies and High Commissions have amended their Visa regulations to issue visas only on the passport booklets and not on additional visa sheets.

(b) All the Passport Issuing Authorities in India and abroad have been advised to discontinue attaching additional visa sheets in passports when all the pages are exhausted and to issue fresh passport booklets without any additional verification.

#### Exemption Under P.F. Act

5130. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of firms in Karnataka who have been granted exemption under the P.F. Act;

(b) whether these establishments have invested funds in the Central and State Government securities as per the Government of India Notification;

(c) if so, the number of them have invested and the number of them have failed to invest in Central and State Government securities;