

Agricultural Colleges/Institutions

*414 SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of diploma/degree-holders and post-graduates of Agricultural Colleges/Institutions in the country have been facing unemployment problem due to small number of jobs available for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any action plan to make effective utilisation of trained manpower during the Ninth Five Year Plan under the new Agriculture Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agricultural Education is a State subject however the vacancies in National Agricultural System are less commensurate with the outturn of the graduates except in discipline of Veterinary Sciences & Fisheries.

(c) and (d) A comprehensive national policy in Agriculture is under the final stages of drafting and it is likely to be finalised in consultation with the States. However, a study on manpower assessment need is being initiated under Agricultural Human Resource Development Project which will help in effective utilisation of trained manpower.

Launching of PSLV-C-2

*415. SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PSLV-C-2 is to take German and Korean Satellites to space this year;

(b) if so, whether the other foreign countries viz. Norway are also leasing transponders in INSAT-2E;

(c) the commercial benefits likely to be accrued from the sale of remote sensing data acquired by India from the space programme;

(d) whether the INSAT system continues to provide services in the area of Telecommunications, Meteorology

and disaster warning through the INSAT-1D, 2A, 2B and 2C; and

(e) the time by which final decision for launching of PSLV-C2 is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Nine out of the Seventeen INSAT-2E transponders have been leased to INTELSAT.

(c) Through a Co-operation Agreement between Antrix Corporation Ltd., the commercial arm of Department of Space, and Space Imaging, USA, Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) data is being marketed globally. The revenues from these dealings are shared between Antrix and Space Imaging. For the year 1997-98, the income received by Antrix is about 1 million US Dollars and estimated income during 1998-99 is US\$ 2 million. National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) is selling IRS data in India and in the neighbouring countries. The revenue for 1997-98 was Rs. 10.50 Crores and estimated revenue during 1998-99 is Rs. 12.50 Crores).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Based on present assessment of the likely readiness of the Primary Satellite, the PSLV-C2 launch is scheduled during the first quarter of 1999.

National Coastal Protection Project

*416. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) based on proposals received from the Coastal States;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received from different States and the prepared project;

(c) whether the project was proposed to be financed by generating funds from the international agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether due to nuclear test conducted by India the assistance from international agencies is likely to suffer; and