

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Out of 934 pending cases relating to pensionary matters. 579 cases have already been settled.

(b) to (d) 355 cases are pending with audit authorities due to dispute of nominees, non-availability of required documents etc. All efforts are being made to ensure speedy finalisation of these cases. Claimants are advised for complying with audit requirements. As soon as the requisite documents/information are made available by the individual/organisation concerned, the cases are finalised immediately.

Employment Assurance Scheme

2275. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria to divide the block under 'A', 'B' and 'C' category under the Employment Assurance Scheme;

(b) whether the Government send the full amount of money to each block every year as per the above categorisation; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not sending the full amount to the district of Balasor of Orissa during 1997-98.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) Initially the blocks under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) was divided in three categories i.e. 'A', 'B' and 'C' on the basis of rural population for the purpose of release of instalments. All blocks included under EAS since 1996-97 have been placed in Category 'C'.

(b) There is no fixed yearly allocation under EAS for a block. A district can send proposal for release of funds for a block after utilisation of 50% of the available funds.

(c) Two instalments were released to 12 blocks of Balasore district during 1997-98. While releasing first instalment to 8 blocks of the district, Rs. 4.40 lakhs was deducted because of short release of State matching share. Proposal for release of 3rd instalment for 1997-98 was received on 6th April, 1998 after the closing of the financial year.

BAUXITE MINE

2276. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHAYAY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Bauxite mines in Rajasthan location-wise;

(b) whether some new Bauxite mines have been discovered by the Geological survey of India or the State Directorate of Mines in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(d) the extent of Bauxite deposits discovered in the new areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) There is no Bauxite mine in Rajasthan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

[Translation]

Grants to Voluntary Organisations under RGNDM

2277. SHRI CHHATRA PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Schemes of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission under which grant is being given to the Voluntary Organisations;

(b) the amount of grant released to the Voluntary Organisations for the last two years and the criteria fixed for sanctioning of grant;

(c) the names of the Voluntary Organisations to whom grant sanctioned during the last two years alongwith the nature of their projects approved, State-wise; and

(d) the names of the Voluntary Organisations, whose projects were rejected State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Uranium Deposits

2278. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uranium deposits have been located in South India; and