

Task force on Information Technology

1228. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have set up a task force on Information technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether task force has submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the recommendations made by the task force; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) the Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development was set up on 22.05.1998 comprising members from Government, public sector, private sector, industry associations and professionals. Its major objectives are to suggest measures and policies to enable India emerge as an information technology superpower within the next ten years.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Task Force has submitted two reports viz. (i) Information Technology Action Plan on 4.7.98, and (ii) Information Technology Action Plan, Part II Development, Manufacture and Export of Information Technology Hardware on 26.10.98.

(d) In the case of first report, the task Force has made 108 recommendations aiming to accomplish (i) Infrastructure Drive, (ii) Target of IT Exports of \$ 50 billion, and (iii) IT for all by 2008.

The recommendations of the second report mainly relate to Soft-Bonded IT Unit. Fiscal and Financial Policies, Procedural Simplifications, Export, Investment and RBI related issues, Banking Issues, Company Law Issues, Labour Laws, Information Technology Units in DTA Information Technology Product Design and Development etc.

(e) Government has already accepted the first report and has issued the Gazette Notification No. IT-TF/5/98 dated 25.7.1998.

The second report is under consideration.

Godawari Action Plan

1229. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has prepared a comprehensive action plan for the utilisation of Godawari water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government has consulted some experts and eminent persons on the subject; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the action plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No such proposal for the utilisation of Godawari Water has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Special Package for North-East States

1230. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have announced any special package for the development of North-East particularly the State of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of schemes that have been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) (a) and (b) The then Prime Minister made a statement at Guwahati on 27th October, 1996 announcing New Initiatives for the North Eastern Region. The details are given in attached Statement-I. Some additional features