

*[Translation]***Recognisations to SC/ST Union**

2090. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government recognised general trade union welfare Association and other departmental staff organisations officially;

(b) if so, the steps taken to recognise the labour organisations and Union Welfare Associations of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes also; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The recognition of trade union is governed by Labour Laws. The recognition of Departmental Staff Association is governed by the provision of Central Civil Services (Recognition for Service Association) Rules, 1993. According to Rule 5 (f), 'The Service Association shall not be formed to represent the interests, or on the basis, of any caste, tribe or religious denomination or of any group within or section of such caste, tribe or religious denomination'.

FCI Offices in Maharashtra

2091. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of offices of FCI in Maharashtra, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposed to open some more offices in the State during the Ninth Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) In Maharashtra, FCI has the following set up:

Zonal Office at Mumbai.

Regional Office at Mumbai.

Sub-Regional Office at Nagpur.

District Offices at:

1. Panval
2. Mumtai City Godown
3. Borivilli
4. Manmad
5. Poona

6. Nagpur

7. General Motors (Mumbai)

8. Bombay Docks

(b) No specific proposal is currently being considered.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

Expenditure on Research

2092. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drugs manufacturing companies are spending a meagre amount on research;

(b) if so, the percentage of amount being spent on research at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue any direction to drug-manufacturing companies for increasing this amount; and

(d) if not, the time by which the Government is likely to issue such directions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) and (b) All drug manufacturing companies do not spend on R&D. However, quite a few of the drug companies spend on research and progressive companies spent upto 9% of their annual turnover on R&D.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Reconstitution of North Eastern Council**

2093. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to reconstitute the North-Eastern Council with the inclusion of Sikkim as an integral part of it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of times the said Council met during the last three years; and

(d) the main problems discussed and recommendations made therein?