

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stand of countries/agencies on such investment which are aiding India?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Government of India has been providing financial support to make the country self-reliant in the field of Nuclear Science and Technology. The total budgetary support for the Department of Atomic Energy has been enhanced from Rs. 2161 crore in the Eighth Plan to Rs. 6000 crore in the Ninth Plan.

(c) Since investment in any field is the prerogative of the government, the question does not arise.

Bhartiya Vidhya Bhawan

5084. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the funds released to Bhartiya Vidhya Bhawan in Mexico during last three years;

(b) the amount actually utilised by the Bhawan; and

(c) the activities of this Bhawan in Mexico?

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

(a) The Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan in Mexico (known as La Casa de La Cultura de la India) was established in 1993 as a branch of the Mumbai Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan. The Mexican Centre of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan is a private non-government organisation active in the dissemination of information about Indian culture and fostering cultural bonds between India and Mexico. It is partially funded by the Grants-in Aid from the Government of India. The funds released during the last three years as Grants-in Aid are as follows:

1994-95	Rs. 3,00,000/-
1995-96	Rs. 3,00,000/-
1996-97	Rs. 3,00,000/-

(b) The amounts sanctioned as Grants-in Aid were actually utilised by the Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan in Mexico.

(c) The Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan in Mexico organises programmes of Indian classical dance, concerts of Indian classical music, workshops on Indian classical music, workshops on Indian classical dance, course of Odissi dance, Hindi language course, seminars and conferences about India.

[Translation]

Ground Water Level in U.P.

5085. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any scheme from the Government of Uttar Pradesh to raise the level of ground water in the State;

(b) if so, the latest position thereof;

(c) whether this scheme is likely to be implemented in other states of the country;

(d) whether the Government have mobilised additional financial resources for implementing this scheme; and

(e) the time by which the scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted a proposal on 30.1.93 for financial assistance for investigative pilot studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water in 5 districts of Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 lakhs. After examining the proposal, the State Government had been informed on 7.4.94 that the Ministry of Water Resources was not having any programme under which the proposed studies could be funded and therefore, the State Government would have to make its own arrangements for financing the scheme. It was further informed that the Central Ground Water Board would continue to provide technical guidance to the State Government for implementation of the scheme.

(c) Water being a State subject, implementation of such schemes depends on the State Governments.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Missile Threat from Pakistan

5086. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pakistan ready to Test-fire Ghauri-II, Tarmuk : CIA" appearing in 'Times of India' dated 1st June, 1998;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to counter this threat?