

Festival of India 269

2065. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hold "Festival of India" in Foreign countries;

(b) if so, the last "Festival of India" held in abroad and in India; and

(c) the place and time when next "Festival of India" is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Last Festival of India was held in Thailand during 1995-97. Festival of Thailand in India was held in August-September, 1997.

(c) The exact time and place for the next Festival of India is yet to be decided.

Issuance of Work Permit 269

2066. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issuance of work-permit to Bangladeshi nationals for temporary jobs has been cleared by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Govari Castes of Madhya Pradesh

2067. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govari Caste of Madhya Pradesh, living below poverty line is likely to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, whether Govari Caste has been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) No Sir. We have received no such proposal.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Welfare Programme for Women 270

2068. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assistance/aid provided to the various voluntary organisations for Welfare programmes for women during 1996-97 and 1998 to Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra;

(b) whether some proposals received from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan are pending for approval;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS, WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

[Translation]

Procurement Centres in Madhya Pradesh

2069. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state: