

[*Translation*]

Tribunals.

Objectives of Administrative Tribunal

6033. PROF. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives behind constituting the Central Administrative Tribunal and to what extent these objectives have been achieved so far;

(b) whether Government propose to expand the administrative tribunal and improve its working; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The objective behind the establishment of the Administrative Tribunals was to render speedy and inexpensive justice to the Govt. Employees in cases of service matters. Only a nominal fee of Rs. 50/- is charged from the parties concerned while filing an application in the Administrative Tribunals. The various Administrative Tribunals (CAT & SAT) have been adjudicating a large number of pending cases transferred from the various High Courts and subordinate courts in addition to fresh cases instituted. Considering that there is an ever-increasing demand for setting up of new benches of the CAT/SAT to cover organisations other than those already covered, as also the fact that the average time taken for disposal of cases is comparatively shorter, it is felt that the institution is serving the purpose for which it was set up.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Government have decided to set up additional benches of the CAT in addition to the holding of circuit sittings at various places. The procedure rules for Administrative Tribunals are also reviewed and amendments are brought about with a view to improve the working of the

Encashment of Commuted Leave

6034. DR. BÈNGALI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for Central Government employees to avail 10 commuted leaves on full pay and 20 commuted leaves on half-pay each year;

(b) if so, whether there are large number of employees in different ministries and offices of Central Government who do not avail of this leave at all even upto the time of their retirement and they do not get any benefit for it; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide the facility to encash the commuted leave also as has been done in the case of earned leave at the time of retirement?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) A Central Government Employee is credited with half-pay leave in advance in two instalments of ten days each on the first day of January and July of every calendar year. The half-pay leave can be availed on medical certificate or on private affairs as prescribed in the rules.

Commuted leave not exceeding half the amount of half-pay leave can be granted on medical certificate to a Government servant subject to certain conditions. However half-pay leave upto a maximum of 180 days may be allowed to be commuted during the entire service without production of medical certificate for undergoing an approved course of study certified to be in the public interest.

(b) Half-pay leave at the credit of employee lapses on the date of retirement on attaining the age of superannuation. The number of employees in whose cases half-

pay leave lapses on retirement is not centrally monitored.

(c) Government are not in favour of the encashment of half-pay leave at the time of retirement on superannuation.

[English]

Training for Global Technology

6035. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any concrete plan for personnel training to meet the requirement to fast changing production technology in various fields;

(b) whether these training programmes will cover all levels of personnel; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Representation from Association of Bharat Natyam Artists

6036. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTIMALA BALI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Association of Bharatnatyam artists (ABHAI) had request the Government to accord its recognition so that it could effectively pursue the problem of

performing artist and for furtherance of the cause of arts; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Neither the Department of Culture nor the Sangeet Natak Akademi have any system of according formal recognition to any art Organisation. Individual artists and Voluntary Cultural Organisations who are eligible can avail themselves of the benefits available under the various schemes and programme operated by the Department of Culture and Sangeet Natak Akademi. No formality of recognition has been prescribed for this.

Clearance to Development of Sabrimala Shrine in Kerala

6038. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the development of Sabrimala Shrine in Kerala is Pending with the Union Government for environment clearance; and

(b) if so, when necessary clearance is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.