

experts under UNDP programmes etc.

The duration normally varied from a few days to a few months/years under the above programmes.

(c) Selections are made on specific guidelines formulated by an Expert Committee. Under these guidelines the proposals are to be first scrutinised by the Internal Committees at the respective Laboratories/Institutes before recommending to CSIR. The visits under bilateral programmes of CSIR and for collaborative projects are finalised on the recommendations of the High Level Departmental Committee appointed by the Director-General, CSIR. The guidelines laid down are strictly adhered to while making selections for the Scientists' visits abroad.

Separate List of Hindi Experts

6135. PROF. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no mention of Hindi experts in the lists of experts of various subjects prepared by University Grants Commission and Hindi has been mentioned under lists of various languages;

(b) if so, whether University Grants Commission will take necessary action to prepare an independent and separate list for Hindi, and if so, when; and

(c) the steps taken in regard to giving adequate representation in the aforesaid list of Hindi experts of both Hindi and non-Hindi speaking States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY

OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, it has 16 panels of experts in various subjects. Experts on Hindi are included in panel for Modern India, other Oriental & African Languages and Literature. There is no proposal to constitute a separate expert panel for Hindi.

Financial assistance to Wardha Plan

6136. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have furnished a revised proposal of Wardha Plan based on Gandhian philosophy of Antodaya seeking additional financial assistance from the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the action taken by government thereon;

(c) whether special financial assistance has been provided by the Planning Commission for execution of district plans in selected pilot districts in the country and if so the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken for clearance of Wardha Plan and the quantum of central assistance proposed for the plan?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Maharashtra State government had forwarded in April 1984 a draft Wardha Plan involving an outlay of Rs. 183.94 crores including Centre's share of Rs. 13.91 crores. Subsequently, the State Government revised the draft plan to Rs. 178.42 crores including Centre's share of Rs. 13.24 crores. Since the document did not fully reflect the principles and philosophy of Gandhiji, the State Government was advised to reexamine the schemes in greater detail.

(c) Yes, Sir. Planning Commission engaged the services of NIRD (National Institute of Rural Development), Hyderabad to assist State governments for the preparation of model district plans for the districts of Tirunelveli- Kottambomman (Tamil Nadu), Nasik (Maharashtra), Munghyr (Bihar), Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) and Sitapur (Uttar Pradesh).

(d) The State Government has been advised that Wardha plan schemes should place greater emphasis on village self-sufficiency, intensive use of labour on agro-based industries and on non-land base employment, and incorporated as part of the State Plan.

Construction of Roads in Hilly Ranges of Vidarbha

6137. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amendment made in 1988 to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has adversely affected the development works such as construction of roads etc. in villages located in hilly ranges of vidarbha region in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, details of the villages affected; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to ensure speedy and effective development of these tribal/hilly areas?

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. It may be noted that no Proposal regarding construction of village road in vidarbha region is pending with Central Government for clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken in May 1989 to ensure speedy disposal of cases under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 are as below:

1. Diversion of forest land for construction of buildings for schools, hospitals, dispensaries, community halls, co-operatives, panchayats, tiny rural industrial sheds of Government etc. which are to be put up for the benefit of the people of that area are now to be considered but such diversions should be strictly limited to the actually needed area and should not exceed one hectare in each case.
2. In hill districts and in other districts having forest land exceeding 50 per cent of the total geographical area, compensatory afforestation on non-forest land is not insisted upon and is permitted on degraded forest land twice in extent of the area diverted provided forest land involved is less than 5 hectares and the small water works, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensary, hospitals, tiny rural industrial shed of the government or any other similar work which directly benefit the people of the area.
3. Only those cases wherein forest area involved is more than 10 hectares are now referred to Advisory Committee for its advice. Cases involving forest area upto 10 hectares are decided by this Ministry without referring those to the Advisory Committee. The Regional Chief