

(a) the details of the functions organised by the West Zone Cultural Centre Udaipur and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years;

(b) the details of the items purchased by this centre for Apna Utsav organised in Delhi and whether the items purchased by them are still with the centre;

(c) whether the plan of the 'Shilpgram' built up under this Centre had the approval of the Steering Committee of the Centre; and

(d) whether the 'Shilpgram' has any utility?

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 (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Timber Processing Complex at Calicut

5988. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to examine the possibility of establishing a timber processing complex at Calicut; and

(b) whether the Government give priority to this and explore the possibilities in this field?

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) and (b). Kerala Government has informed

that there is no proposal to start Timber processing complex at Calicut since there is not enough quantity of raw material available.

[Translation]

Equal Rank Equal Pension

5989. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the retired Central Government employees demanding that pension be paid to the retired personnel on the basis of 'equal rank equal pension'; and

(b) if so, the details therefore and the action taken thereon?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The demand of the retired Central Government employees, which include ex-servicemen, is to pay pension to the past retirees at the same rates as admissible to the present day employees on their retirement from equivalent ranks/grades. The Government have appointed a Committee to examine the demand of the ex-Servicemen in all its aspects, including its implications.

[English]

Protection Belur and Halebid Temples

5991. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Belur and Halebid temples have no protection from sun and rains; and

(b) the steps taken or contemplated to