

to take measures to ensure the spread of small industry to rural areas and give special emphasis to the development of village industries. In addition, it is also proposed to transfer a substantial part of the responsibility for planning and implementation of rural development programmes to elected representative institutions of local government alongwith financial resource so as to undertake integrated area planning through people's participation for maximisation of growth and employment in the rural areas.

Cultural Agreement with Pakistan

6930. SHRI. G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any cultural agreement with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to have any cultural agreement with Pakistan in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Cultural Cooperation Agreement between India and Pakistan was signed on 31st December, 1988 at Islamabad and came into force from the 18th June 1989 with the exchange of Instruments of Ratification. It envisages the promotion and development of relations and understanding between the two countries in the realms of art, culture, archaeology, education, mass media, information and sports. Its chief features include exchanges of academicians, exports, artists, writers, musicians, sport teams, books, publications, art objects, art and other exhibitions; participation in seminars, international

film festivals; offer of scholarships and establishment of cultural centres.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Central School in Kottayam District in Kerala

6931. SHRIRAMESHCHENNITHALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Central School in Kottayam District of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. However, the sponsoring agency has not yet been able to provide necessary facilities for opening the Vidyalaya. Pending this, the vidyalaya cannot be started.

Increase in Rate of Family Pension

6932. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of family pension is too meagre particularly in the case of low paid employees;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the rate of family pension; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Improving upon the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission that the minimum family pension may be fixed at Rs. 300/- p.m. the Government have fixed the

minimum family pension at Rs. 375/- p.m. w.e.f. 1.1.1986. Unlike pension, family pension is granted without reference to the actual length of service of the deceased employee. Family pension at twice the normal rates, subject to certain conditions, is paid for the initial period of 7 years from the date of death of an employee or upto the date the employee would have attained 65 years had he survived. In addition, family pensioners are also granted dearness relief as sanctioned from time to time to pensioners.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Employment on Compassionate Grounds

6933. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the instructions regarding grant of compassionate employment to the ward on the death of a Government servant as the present instructions do not envisage guarantee of compassionate employment; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposed changes to be made?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Nomination on J.C.M.

6934. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether nominations on the Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM) are to be made by the Governing Bodies of the Service Associations only and there is no provision for a direct election to J.C.M.;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to send persons in the J.C.M. through direct elections only so as to improve the status and functioning of the J.C.M. body; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) As per the provisions of the Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery, the nomination of Staff Side members on the JCM are made by the recognised service associations in the prescribed manner. There is no provision for a direct elections to J.C.M.

(b) and (c). The nominations of the Staff Side members to the JCM is done in a manner which has been mutually agreed to by the Government and Leaders of the Staff Side. The JCM is functioning satisfactorily and there is no proposal to send persons in the JCM through direct elections.

Objective of National Natural Resources Management System

6935. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS);

(b) the names of the various sources from where its information is obtained /gathered; and

(c) the names of the various users of the data/information generated by the NNRMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The major objectives of National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) are: