

**Discovery of Megalithic Burials in Tamil Nadu**

6937. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2000 years old megalithic burials have been discovered for the first time under the sea by a team of marine archaeologists off Poompuhar and Tarangambadi coast in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) During preliminary survey in March 1990 a megalithic burial site was located 400 metres off Tarangambadi coast in Tamil Nadu.

(b) Preliminary finding indicate that this measures 10 metres in length and 6.3 metres in width at a water depth of 7 metres. Similar objects probably dating back to 200 BC. to 200 A.D. are found above a beach rock which at present is submerged.

**Allocation of Funds for Nagaland Central University**

6938. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any funds have been allocated during the year 1990-91 for Nagaland Central University, Lumami;

(b) if so, the total amount allocated; and

(c) the time by when the construction work is likely to be started and when it is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI

MEHTA): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Commission has made a tentative provision of Rs. 2 crores for new Central Universities, including Nagaland University, in their Plan for 1990-91. The estimated requirement for the establishment of Nagaland University is Rs. 61.34 crores. In view of the overall constraints of resources, it has not been possible to undertake necessary measures for making the University operational.

**New item Captioned "Timber Shortage to Continue"**

6939. SHRI R.N. RAKESH:  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in "THE HINDUSTAN TIMES" dated 4th April, 1990 under the heading "TIMBER SHORTAGE TO CONTINUE";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the shortage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c). According to "The State of Forest Report, 1987" prepared by Forest Survey of India, the gap between demand and supply of timber is estimated to be about 15 million cum. The shortage is as a result of increase in demand of wood based industries, housing etc. coupled with reduced extraction of timber from natural forests.