

<i>Rupees in lakhs</i>	
<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount of grant</i>
1	2
1987-88	86.52
1988-89	13.16
1989-90	41.30

(b) and (c). U.G.C. have invited proposals from all universities, including the Garhwal University, for assistance during the 8th Plan. According to the information furnished by UGC, the level of assistance during the 8th Plan would continue to remain at least at the same level as during the 7th Plan.

(d) and (e). The Garhwal University has been established under an Act of State Legislature, and as a matter of policy the Central Government does not convert State University into Central Universities.

#### **Expansion of IRE Factory at Manavalakurichy**

7752. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the Indian Rare Earths factory at Manavalakurichy;

(b) whether the Rare Earths available there would be utilised by setting up factories in Kanyakumari District; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) There is no proposal for expansion of the Indian Rare Earths factory at Manavalakurichy. A scheme for modernisation of the Mineral Separation Plant is however under implementation. The scheme

consists of setting up of a Concentrate Upgrading Plant (which has been commissioned in March, 1990) and modernisation of the existing plant by addition to and replacement of certain plants and machinery.

(b) There is no proposal of the Government to set up any new factories for processing beach sands in Kanyakumari District.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Grants to Ranikhet Cantonment Municipality for Construction Works**

7753. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from Ranikhet (Uttar Pradesh) Cantonment Municipality for providing grants for the various construction works;

(b) if so, the head-wise amount of grant demanded by the said municipality for the year 1990-91; and

(c) whether this amount has been sanctioned; and if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Requests for release of funds for road repairs, replacement of water supply distribution lines and augmentation of water supply were received during 1988-89 from the Cantonment Board. No request during the current financial year i.e. 1990-91 has been received so far.

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

#### **Loans for Ex-Servicemen**

7754. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ex-servicemen have been made eligible for 'on-request loans' under SEMFEX Scheme;

(b) if so, whether all District Soldier Welfare Boards have been informed accordingly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Subject to their satisfying the prescribed conditions, ex-servicemen including disabled service personnel and widows of service personnel, are eligible for loan assistance under SEMFEX-I and SEMFEX-II Schemes. They have to apply to the concerned Zila Sainik Board/Rajya Sainik Board for this purpose.

(b) and (c). Salient features of the two schemes were brought to the notice of the Rajya Sainik Boards and, through them, the Zila Sainik Boards, by the Directorate General Resettlement in May 1987 and February 1988 respectively.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Delay In Sanctioning Pension to Armed Forces Personnel**

7755. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether inordinate delay is taking place in sanctioning pension to the armed forces personnel and civilians, employed in Armed Forces Headquarters:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of cases in which pension has not yet been sanctioned together with the steps taken to minimise the delay in the sanction of pension and pensionary benefits in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on 31st March, 1990, pension had not been sanctioned in 171 cases of Armed Forces Personnel. Pension has not been sanctioned in 6 cases of Civilians employed in Armed Forces Headquarters. Several steps like simplification and rationalisation of procedures, computerisation of notification of service pension of personnel below Officer rank and Civilians, timely initiation and correct completion of pension claim documents have been taken to minimise the delay in the sanction of pension and pensionary benefits.

#### **Regional Sports Coaching Centres In Maharashtra**

7756. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a number of regional sports coaching centres in Maharashtra for providing coaching facilities in various sports disciplines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the proposals under consideration for providing such facilities in Maharashtra State and Vidarbha region in particular;

(c) the number of stadia constructed/proposed to be constructed in Maharashtra and the names of the Stadia being managed and utilised by the Sports Authority of India;

(d) whether Government are consider-