

Scientific Interest in Youth

*91. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI:
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government sent some young scientists on international travel in the Seventh Plan period under the scheme "Promotion of scientific interest in youth" if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any evaluation has been made of their observations and experience; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. As part of the Department of Science and Technology's scheme "Promotion of Scientific Interest in Youth", about 100 young scientist, below 35 years of age, are supported for participation in international conferences every year on an average. This scheme provides opportunities to young scientists to participate in international conferences, workshops and training courses/Summer/Winter Schools and exchange of ideas on the latest developments in science and technology in related subjects.

These opportunities enable young scientists to gain experience, which has relevance to the thrust areas of research identified by the Government from time to time. As a result of such exposure, young scientists are able to take up R & D projects in these areas. The report on the participation of the young scientists along with their observa-

tions and experience is circulated to the relevant national Science and Technology institutions in the country to inform them of the deliberations at international conferences.

Setting up of Development Boards in Maharashtra

*92. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI D. B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up of statutory Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan region are proposed to be cleared shortly as assured by the Prime Minister during his recent visit to Nagpur; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard and at what stage the proposal stands?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) A draft scheme for giving effect to the provisions of article 371 (2) of the Constitution was received from the Government of Maharashtra in February, 1989. It comprised of a draft order to be made by the President under the said provision and a draft order to be issued by the Governor in pursuance thereof, providing *inter alia* for establishment of Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra. After examination, the Government of Maharashtra have been requested to consider for recasting the Governor's order keeping in view the requirements of the State and legal opinion.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra made a proposal in April, 1989 for amending article 371 (2) (a) so as to include a specific provision for establishment of a separate development board for Konkan also. This proposal was examined and the State Gov-