

as the Corporation is concerned. ERRP, IRD and RLEGP are executed by the local bodies separately.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : About IRD and ERRP, they have said that that job was given to the Corporation also later on.

SHRI SARAT DEB : They have not given that money to the Corporation, Sir. It is for your information.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Sir, the 12-point action plan was formulated and it was communicated to the State Governments and the Union Territories for implementation. May I know what is the response of the State Governments and the Union Territories? Will the hon. Minister tell here what has been the response and what is the progress of the work in respect of all the 12 points? My submission is that if the information is not immediately available, will the hon. Minister place on the Table of the House this information including response plus progress?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The importance of wasteland development has to be realised at every level, at the Central level, at the State level and at the people's level also. It is only after getting the response from the people as well as the local authorities as well as the State Governments, this can be done. Attempts are being made from the Centre to impress upon the minds of all concerned that wasteland development is a basic development in the country and we find that there is a progressive increasing response to the suggestions made by the Government. Of course, a particular level which is acceptable and which will really be very efficient and useful has to be created. But there is a progressive and increasing response given in this matter by all concerned.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : What is the progress made in respect of each State and Union Territory? That is my question.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : That information can be given.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the time by which the scheme submitted through the Wasteland Development Corporation regarding checking of desert spreading in the Aravalli Gap, upto Delhi and U.P., the photographs in respect of which were taken through INSAT-I, would be sanctioned?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Remote sensing survey of U.P. hills

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

(a) whether a remote sensing survey of the U.P. Hills has been done;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to do the survey in the near future to harness the national resource including forest wealth in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (**SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL**) : (a) & (b) A number of Remote Sensing Surveys with Satellite imagery have been completed for the entire U.P. State including the hill areas for gross forest mapping and wasteland mapping. A Remote Sensing Survey of the upper Ganga catchment for delineating priority areas for conservation, estimating sediment yield and predicting the run off, is underway.

The forest mapping with Satellite imagery was done for the period 1972-75 and 1980-83. The estimatrs of area under

forests after ground checks come to about 32,000 square Kilometers as of early 1980's which is about 11% of the total geographic area of the State. These maps have been found useful as input to forestry planning and change detection.

The wasteland map for the U.P. State in the Hill areas shows snow covered areas and forest blanks. These maps are being used by the forest department of U.P. for wasteland development.

Topographical surveys on 1:50,000 scale with the help of aerial photographs have been completed for the complete U.P. Hill areas and most of the maps have since been printed. Topomaps have been prepared.

A number of detailed surveys have also been conducted with aerial photographs in many U.P. Hill areas. Examples are detailed forest cover type mapping, assessment of forest type and identification of afforestation sites in parts of Almora district and parts of Dehradun forest; Soil and landuse survey in Alaknanda Catchment in Chamoli district; integrated surveys of Doon Valley covering 2000 sq. km.

Under the Indian Remote Sensing Statellite Utilisation Programme, the Remote Sensing Applications Centre, U.P. has carried out aerial photography in a part of the Catchment areas of Rivers Ganga and Ramganga in the Himalayan region. The project is at preliminary stages now.

(c) As a follow up of the above, a number of surveys may take place besides completing the surveys undertaken already.

Health hazards faced by employees of atomic power plants

*703. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several employees of the various atomic and other electronic plants have been affected due to excessive radiation during the past two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) which are the most affected plants by radiation and other hazards affecting the health of the employees; and

(d) what steps have been taken to safeguard the health of the workers working in these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The radiation exposure doses in all plants are well within the prescribed limits in conformity with the International Commission on Radiological Protection recommendations and hence the question of affecting the health of the employees does not arise.

(d) Radiological surveillance by the Health Physics Division and Division of Radiological Protection, BARC and medical surveillance of radiation workers have been in vogue in all atomic energy plants from inception of the plants.

Scheme for economic upliftment of disabled

*705. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :
SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prime Minister has appealed to the people to give the disabled persons their due places as equal citizens of the nation and help them in their economic uplift;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any new scheme in regard to economic upliftment of disabled persons in the country;

(c) whether a list of benefits and strategies for aiding the disabled in the country has been or is being formulated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?