

Complaints have however, been received against some pensioners, that they have managed to get pension by fraudulent means by furnishing incorrect or false information. Such complaints are promptly referred to the concerned State Government for verification. If, on verification, the complaint appears to be *prime-facie* true, the pension sanctioned is suspended and show-cause notice is issued to the pensioner. Such cases are finally reviewed on the basis of explanation received from the freedom fighters in further consultation with the State Government, if necessary, and pension is cancelled or restored as the case may be. Payments already made are also recovered if pension is found to have been obtained by fraudulent means.

Indo-Soviet Joint Space Flight

*876. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH :
SMT. KISHORI SINHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that another Indo-Soviet joint space flight is being planned;

(b) what would be the main tasks the Indian cosmonauts would perform in space; and

(c) the result of the earlier space journey with particular reference to its experimental findings ?

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) At present, there is no plan for another Indo-Soviet joint space flight.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A number of experiments related to bio-medical aspects, material sciences and remote sensing were conducted. The data has been analysed and published in scientific journals. The remote sensing experiments have been particularly useful to a number of agencies in studies related to

soils forestry, geology, water resources, land use and agriculture.

Air Purity Monitoring of Cities

877. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cities/towns in the country where air purity is being monitored; and

(b) the number of air purity monitoring stations in such cities/towns having a population of more than one lakh ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) and (b). Air quality is being monitored in 17 cities/towns and 59 stations have so far been set up. Among the cities/towns covered through the monitoring programme, there are 3 to 5 stations for each city/town having a population of more than one lakh.

[Translation]

Study Regarding Poverty-Stricken People

*878. SHRI MEWA SINGH GILL :
SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a study report of the National Council for Applied Economic Research wherein it has been stated that the number of poverty-stricken people has increased;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report;

(c) whether Government have given a serious thought to this report; and

(d) if so, the conclusion drawn by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLY (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Government are aware of the Study Report of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). The study referred to is the Paper "Focus on Some