

suitable mechanism for development of such integrated approaches.

15. Funds under various schemes of NREP/RLEGP, DDP, DPAP, Tribal sub Plans various health programmes, education programmes afforestation programmes, hill area sub-plans and advance border area plans may be dovetailed to Technology Mission in order to achieve the objective.

16. Resource gap may also be bridged with cost effective technologies and methodologies.

17. A need for Legislation for conservation of ground water and preventing overdrawal was felt. The State Governments may enact such Legislation at the earliest.

18. As in the case of MNP upto 10 per cent of funds under ARWSP may be earmarked for maintenance on a matching basis.

19. To improve operational efficiency it was agreed that the State Governments should streamline systems and procedure. The following steps were considered necessary :

- a) All the rigs and other equipments should be optimally utilised with the reduction in their operational cost, maintenance and downtime ;
- b) Proper training and introduction of material management and inventory control ; and
- c) By placement of suitable qualified professional material managers for materials management and inventory control.

20. State Governments will depute personnel for the training in various CSIR and other organisations and also try to establish suitable training institutes and utilise respective State Government's administrative/management training institutes for training of Technical and other personnel.

21. The quality testing of the source development should be conducted and ensured for the provision of safe drinking water. The required water testing laboratory kits should be made available at the district level for conducting such tests. Secondary schools and colleges in rural areas should be mobilised for this purpose. Testing kits developed by S&T organisations should be widely distributed for spot checking for water quality on regular frequency.

22. A national Seminar and four Regional Seminars would be held this year on Technology Mission for formulation of a National Drinking Water Policy.

[*Translation*]

**Chief Secretaries Conference on
Panchayati Raj**

*454 SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the decision taken in regard to Panchayati Raj in the recent Chief Secretaries Conference and the time by which this decision is likely to be implemented ;

(b) the arrangements being made to safeguard the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at all the three levels of Panchayat viz. Village, Taluka and district ; and

(c) whether Government propose to make arrangements in all the States on the lines of the provision of 'Samajik Nyay Samiti' as existing in the Panchayat Act of Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Conference of Chief Secretaries felt that it was necessary and desirable to revive Panchayati Raj institutions and stressed the importance of bottom up planning. The

three-tier structure of Panchayati Raj with modifications in the case of some States of North-East and Jammu & Kashmir was found to be appropriate. Elections for Block and District Panchayats should be on party lines but elections at the Gram Panchayat level should not be on party lines.

On the role of elected bodies and officials, it was generally felt that while planning decisions and monitoring functions should be left to elected representatives, executive responsibilities should be with the Collector and other officials. As for the Collector, he could function as the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration of Zila Parishad for the purposes of executing the various decisions of that body.

The Conference stressed the need to maintain a focal point in the District with both the development and regulatory aspects of administration being closely linked together at this point.

The Conference also recommended a policy of reservation of seats as well as earmarking of certain financial allocations to ensure that the interest of the weaker sections were safeguarded.

The Conference recommended that functions that devolved to local bodies should be matched by financial and organisational resources.

The Chief Secretaries also stressed the need for a political consensus to implement the suggestions that had emerged in the Conference on Panchayati Raj and District Planning. They felt that a Constitutional Amendment could also be pursued provided there was a political consensus on the point.

Procedures for conduct of election to Panchayat Raj bodies are contained in the respective State Legislations. Most of the State Acts contain provisions for reservation of seats for the SCs/STs.

No suggestions have been made to the State Governments on the adoption of provisions similar to the Gujarat Act on 'Samajik Nyaya Samiti'.

[English]

Revised Three Language Formula

*455. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Revised Three Language Formula, 1961 included the mother tongue as the first language ;

(b) the name of States which have deviated from the Formula on this point and relegated mother tongue to second or third position or eliminated it altogether ;

(c) whether Government have received representations or noticed the grievances of the linguistic minorities in each State that such a charge is against their interest because it deprives their children of learning their mother tongue and lack of command of the mother tongue adversely affects their learning capacity ; and

(d) whether any steps are proposed to be taken by Government to review the implementation of the Revised Three Language Formula, 1961 with a view to ensure its application in accordance with letter and spirit ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (d) The Chief Minister's Conference in 1961 enunciated a Three Language Formula envisaging :

- i) The regional language and mother tongue when the latter is different from the regional language ;
- ii) Hindi or in Hindi speaking areas another Indian language ; and
- iii) English or any other modern European language.

The Education Policy Resolution 1968 envisaged that at the secondary stage, the State Governments should adopt, and vigorously implement, the Three Language Formula which includes the study of a Modern Language, preferably one of the southern languages, apart from Hindi and