

### **Setting up of a Centrally Controlled Organisation to Check Deforestation**

1045. DR. VISWANATHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring all major forests of the country under a centrally controlled organisation so that the present degradation and deforestation of forest in different States can be checked and uniform development of all forests can be taken up;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) to (c). There is no proposal under consideration to bring all major forests of the country under a Centrally controlled organisation.

### **Guidelines for Implementing UGC Pay Scales for College and University Teachers**

1046. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the guidelines framed for implementing the U.G.C. pay scales to college and university teachers had been diluted and are being implemented without adhering to norms relating to academic qualifications and qualifying service; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure compliance of the guidelines and the norms prescribed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DE-

VELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) and (b). The scheme of revision of pay scales for teachers in universities and colleges communicated to the State Governments on 22.7.88 is a composite scheme which provides for revised pay scales, qualifications, career advancement linked with professional development, continuing education, performance appraisal, etc. The State Governments which implement the scheme are provided 80% assistance to meet the additional expenditure. The orders/schemes of the State Government for revision of pay scales are examined by the Central Government before approving the central assistance to ensure that the provisions are in conformity with the central scheme. Central assistance has so far been released to 17 States. The Department of Education do not have information about dilution in the norms relating to academic qualifications, qualifying service, etc. in the implementation of the scheme.

### **Ban on Smoking**

1047. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban smoking in all Government Offices with a view to protect the non-smokers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is a strong opposition to this move of Government from chain smoker Government officials?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) and (b). Government have issued orders banning smoking in selected public places including conference rooms of all Government offices.