

approved including name of the Indian company, name of the foreign collaborator and the country to which it belongs, item of manufacture, percentage and amount of foreign equity participation in each proposal are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to their monthly Newsletter. Copies of the Newsletter are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

Since approvals for joint venture proposals are accorded on the receipt of application from the entrepreneurs, future projections cannot be made.

Medical Insurance Scheme

425. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held any discussions with some of the leading Australian Health Insurance Companies to formulate a proposal for introducing Medical Insurance Scheme in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the provisions to be made for poor people, who are not in a position to be the member of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented and whether the medical treatment would be of international standard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) The possibility of expanding health coverage through insurance schemes has been discussed with numerous organisations who have had experience in this area including the Australian health insurance authorities.

(b) and (c) Health insurance schemes working in other countries generally stipulate compulsory payment of a percentage of salary towards such coverage, which is not relevant in a country where*¹ earning capacity is very

low. The details of catalyzing efforts to establish health insurance schemes are presently under examination in consultation with National and International agencies who have experience in providing health insurance.

US arms supply to Pakistan

426. SHRI CHATURANAN

MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS
GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the US decision to resume arms supplies to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND DEPTT. OF DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the recent US decision to supply certain military equipment, earlier embargoed under the 'Pressler Amendment' to Pakistan. US Government have stated that this is being done as a one time exception to the Pressler Amendment. A close watch is kept by Government, on all such developments which have a bearing on national security, for initiating appropriate measures to ensure adequate defence preparedness to meet the emerging challenges.

Industries in backward districts of Tamil Nadu

427. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has received proposal to start industries i

in backward districts in Tamil Nadu like Dharmapur district; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 77 proposals have been received since 1993 and the decision on 56 proposals has been taken.

प्रतियोगी परीक्षा में भारतीय भाषाएं

428. श्री सोमपाल : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अपनी विभिन्न सेवाओं में भर्ती के लिए सभी प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं में भारतीय भाषाओं में उत्तर लिखने के विकल्प की छूट दी है

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसी सभी सेवाओं की सूची क्या है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो ऐसी कौन-सी सेवाएं हैं जिनमें अभी तक यह छूट उपलब्ध नहीं है और उसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) क्या संसद द्वारा 18 जनवरी, 1968 को इस आशय के परित संकल्प को पूर्णतः कार्यान्वित कर दिया गया है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और सरकार उसे कब तक कार्यान्वित करने पर विचार रखती है।

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती साग्रेंट आल्वा): (क) और (ङ) आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल हिन्दी अथवा अन्य भारतीय भाषा में उत्तर देने का विकल्प सिविल सेवा परीक्षा (मुख्य) में स्वीकार्य है। संघ लोक सेवा आयोग की सभी परीक्षाओं में हिन्दी अथवा अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं में उत्तर लिखने की अनुमति देने का प्रश्न की जांच विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग के पूर्व अध्यक्ष, डा. सतीश चन्द्र की अध्यक्षता में एक विशेषज्ञ समिति द्वारा की गई थी जिसकी सिफारिशों पर सरकार विचार कर रही है। इस मामले की संवेदनशील स्थिति तथा इस विषय पर भिन्न विचारों को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार एक आम सहमति बनाने का प्रयास कर रही है।

Renewal of Railways

429. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided for starting the renewal of 2600 kilometers of railways during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what would be the share of Bihar and Orissa states in the said renewal with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Railway-wise targets for track renewals are given below:—

<i>Railway</i>	<i>Targets in CTR units (Kms)</i>
Central	356
Eastern	298
Northern	341
North Eastern	159
Northeast Frontier	106
Southern	207
South Central	313
South Eastern	529
Western	291
TOTAL	2600

(c) Track renewal figures are maintained zone-wise and not state-wise. However, a global view of overdue renewal is taken giving due consideration to the traffic density, traffic carried and speed on the section, while deciding the renewals to be taken on different sections.

While Orissa is served by South-Eastern Railway Bihar is served by Eastern and North-Eastern Railway.

Non placement of orders for Arjun Tank

430. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DRDO has