

(d) whether Government propose to convene an All Party Conference to work out the autonomous structure of the electronic media?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Doordarshan endeavours to mount programmes in various forms based on their programme requirements and topicality. However, there is no proposal, at present to revive the Janvani programme.

(c) The gross revenues earned by Doordarshan through 'Tipu Sultan' serial in respect of advertisements and sponsorship is Rs. 19.54 crores.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Biotechnology industries in Madhya Pradesh

596. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that biotechnology industries are being promoted in India;

(b) if so, the location wise and area-wise details of industries so far promoted by the Department of Biotechnology; and

(c) the number of biotechnology industries promoted so far by Government (Department of Biotechnology) in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is promoting interaction between the R&D Institutes and the Industries, with a view to transferring indigenously developed products and services for adoption by the industry. For this purpose a Venture Capital Company, Biotech Consortium India Ltd. has been establishing under IDBI with equity participation from other financial institutions and private industry.

The DBT is also taking steps to set up industries in areas of national priority.

Two industries namely, M/s. Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Ltd., Bulandshahar, U.P. and M/s. Indian Vaccine Corporation Ltd., Gurgaon, Haryana have been promoted in the area of vaccines production.

(c) Efforts are being made to establish Biotech Industries in various sectors in Madhya Pradesh.

Age bar prescribed for Government jobs

597. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the maximum age limit prescribed for entry into Government Services;

(b) whether Government are aware that the age bar has adversely affected millions of youth particularly from rural parts who have crossed the age bar and thus become ineligible for Government services, forever; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to abolish the age bar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) The upper age limits prescribed for recruitment to various posts under the Central Government range from 25 to 50 years depending on the nature and category of each post and the qualifications and experience prescribed for recruitment.

(b) Government jobs being limited, raising the age limit by itself will not help to provide more employment opportunities for the youth.

(c) There is no proposal to abolish the upper age limit.

Reviewing performance of new departments

598. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some new departments were separately carved out over the past few years for very specific

purposes like promotion and exploitation of ocean development, bio-technology, non-conventional energy, food processing industry etc.; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any programme for reviewing the performance of those new Departments which have completed five years to find out whether they have achieved the objectives for which they were set up?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The working of the Departments are kept under regular review, through the examination of the Ministries/Departments by the Parliamentary Committees like the Estimates Committee, Public Accounts Committee etc. The Annual Reports of the Departments are also placed before the Parliament. Important programmes and schemes are also reviewed from time to time.

Implementation of reservation quota for SC/ST in CSIR laboratories

599. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any exemption is in operation at present from the purview of the reservation orders for SC/ST in higher grade at posts under CSIR laboratories/institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any reservation has not been made for Assessment/Promotion of SC/ST while implementing a new policy named as MANAS; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The Government of India instructions on reservation upto and inclusive of lowest rung of Group 'A' are being followed in CSIR and its laboratories/institutes. Though there is no reservation in the higher posts, candidates belonging to SC/ST

categories are considered for these posts by relaxed standards.

(c) and (d) Since normal assessment/promotion under Merit and Normal Assessment Scheme is not vacancy based, reservation is not possible. However, SC/ST candidates are judged by a relaxed standard with a lower percentage of threshold marks for assessment/promotion by 10 per cent as compared to general candidates. The interests of SC/ST candidates covered under the Scheme are further safeguarded by inclusion of a member of SC/ST on the assessment committee.

Reservation quota for SC/STs in CSIR Laboratories and Institutes

600. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation quota for SC/ST employees of higher grade posts has not been filled in CSIR laboratories/institutes;

(b) whether any special efforts would be made to complete the reservation quota, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) CSIR laboratories/institutes have made consistent effort to fill up the vacancies reserved for SC/ST candidates. As a result of these efforts out of 97 vacant posts reserved for SC/ST candidates in Group 'A', 86 posts have been filled upto July, 1991.

Radio-active contamination of Steel Bars imported by USA from India

601. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 20,6 tonnes of imported Steel from India found by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission to be contaminated by