

order to maintain administrative and academic continuity, he was granted extension beyond 7th September, 1989. He was appointed on March 12, 1990 for a second term of three years.

Scholars getting Foreign Travel and Maintenance Grants

3013. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the scholars to whom foreign travel grants and maintenance grants had been given from the 1st January, 1990 so far;

(b) the topics on which the said grants were given; and

(c) whether prior permission of the Reserve Bank of India was obtained before giving the grant in foreign currency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission provides lump-sum grants to each University from which the Universities sanction travel and maintenance grants to individual teachers for attending Conferences/Seminars/Workshops abroad. UGC provides travel and maintenance assistance to college teachers and Research Scholars of University directly. A list of persons to whom such grants have been sanctioned since 1-1-90 along with the topic of the Conference/Seminar is annexed. (See Appendix CLV, Annexure No. 102).

(c) Travel grant is provided in Indian currency. It is for the individual grantee to obtain permission of Reserve Bank of India for foreign exchange for maintenance.

National Literacy Campaign in Himachal Pradesh

3014. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER

be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national literacy campaign with a central message 'Literacy and science for national integration and self-reliance' was launched in Himachal Pradesh in June, 1990;

(b) what are the main features of the campaign; and

(c) what amount of central aid was asked for and given to Himachal Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The National Literacy Mission was launched in Himachal Pradesh on 5th May, 1988 to provide functional literacy to adult illiterates in the 15-35 age-group. During the International Literacy Year a Bharat Gyan Vigyan Jatha with the central message of 'literacy and science for national integration and self reliance' is being launched throughout the country including Himachal Pradesh, from 2nd October to 14th November, 1990. A Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS) has been set up as a registered society in New Delhi for this purpose under the Chairmanship of Dr. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah.

The BGV Samiti has already started its work in Himachal Pradesh and it has identified ten literacy ambassadors. District Level organisations are being formed and a State Level Convention is scheduled to be held in September, 1990. The main feature of the BGVJ programme in Himachal Pradesh is the Kalajatha which is to be performed in about 150 locales in all the 12 districts of the State. In each Kalajatha about 18 artistes and educators will perform cultural items before the people.

The BGV Samiti has been sanctioned a total grant of Rs. 242.22 crores for conducting the nation-wide Jatha. No Separate grant or allocation of

funds has been made for Himachal Pradesh by the Samiti.

Rules for the appointment of Visiting Professors to different Universities

3015. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules guiding the appointments by Government/University Grants Commission of visiting Professors to different Universities;

(b) whether these posts are open to retire Professors, Readers, Lecturers of Universities with doctorate degree and experience of teaching post-graduate students and guiding research students; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) According to the norms prescribed by UGC for appointment to the post of Visiting Professors, the person should be an eminent scholar in his field and generally persons who have held or holding the post of Professor should be considered for the appointment as Visiting Professors. In case the university desires to appoint a person, other than a Professor under the Visiting Professors scheme, in that case it should send the bio-data of the person concerned and obtain the prior concurrence of the Commission.

(b) and (c) The scheme is open to superannuated Professors and the university can appoint them upto the age of 62. But if the university proposes to appoint a person who has attained the age of 62 years or more but less than 65 years as Visiting Professors, it should send the bio-data to UGC and obtain the Commission's concurrence prior to appointment. The scheme is not generally open to Readers and Lecturers. In exceptional cases, however, the Commission can consider award of Visiting Professor-

ship to Readers and Lecturers on the basis of their academic performance.

Medical Facilities Allowance to Teachers in Delhi

3016. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether teachers under the Delhi Administration and Delhi Municipal Corporation are given medical allowance or fixed amount monthly towards medical expenses;

(b) if so, the details;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase this sum and to raise it;

(d) whether there is any proposal to introduce group insurance scheme for medicine etc., for Delhi teachers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The school teachers under Delhi Administration and local bodies like Municipal Corporation of Delhi are getting a fixed medical allowance of Rs. 15/- per month. Besides, the facility of reimbursement of expenditure on hospitalisation on account of grave or chronic illnesses etc. is also available to them;

(c) to (e) A Health Insurance Scheme for Delhi school teachers was formulated in consultation with Delhi Administration and Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd. Despite persuasion and meetings with the representatives of Delhi Teachers' Association, the Scheme has not been accepted by them.

Vacant post of Members Secretary of Indian Council of Social Science Research

3017. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of Member