

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON):** (a) Yes, Sir. The research article on "Vulnerability of Indian coastal region to damage from sea level rise" by Scientists of National Institute of Oceanography, Goa published in the Journal 'Current Science' in February, 1990 has been taken note of.

(b) The research article identifies Lakshadweep archipelago as the most vulnerable region to inundation from sea level rise. It is also pointed out that there is uncertainty about the future projections and on the estimates of global sea level for the year 2050 which vary from 23.8 cm. to 106.7 cms; for the year 2100 from 56.2 cms to 345.9 cms.

(c) It should be stated that long term, stable and accurate data are lacking and suitable models for predictions are not available. The immediate response should be mainly in the form of further research to improve our understanding on the likelihood of and consequences of such a range in sea level rise in the vicinity of India; this would include modernisation of tide gauges employed to measures, sea level. In planning the development of the low lying Coastal Zone, such as Lakshadweep, it has to be ensured that no large outlays and population growth takes place or are minimized in areas likely to be affected by such sea level rise.

#### **Promotion of Sindhi Language**

122. **SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities are available to students desiring to study through Sindhi medium at school stage; if so, to what extent and in which States;

(b) when was the Sindhi Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Education, constituted; and

(c) how many times it has met and what recommendations it has made for promotion and development of Sindhi language?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMAN-BHAI MEHTA):** (a) As per the information available, at present facilities for students desiring to study through Sindhi medium at school stage are available in the States of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

(b) The present Sindhi Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Education was constituted on 16 January, 1989.

(c) The Sindhi Advisory Committee referred to above has met once on 27 July, 1989. In this meeting the following important recommendations were made by the Committee:

(i) Establishment of Sindhi Vikas Board.

(ii) Conduct of Seminars and workshops.

(iii) Setting up of Sindhi training and research centre under Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore.

#### **Institutions named after Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak**

123. **SHRI PROMOD MAHAJAN:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any institutions of national importance under the Ministry of Human Resource Development are named after Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, whether any proposal in this regard is under Government's consideration; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

### Exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops

124. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged fire across the J&K border since May, 1990; stating the number of military and civilian casualties on both the sides;

(b) what is the number of Pakistani intruders apprehended in the Indian territory during May-July, 1990;

(c) the number of times Indian Government have lodged protests with Pakistan Government;

(d) whether war preparations are going on in these areas on the Pakistani side; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what steps Government have taken so far to strengthen the Indian positions along J&K border to meet any unforeseen eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c) Exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops, across the J&K LOC/Border, has been continuing to take place and there have been casualties on both sides. 13 Pak/POK intruders were apprehended while attempting infiltration during May-July 1990 in J&K. The Govt. of India have been keeping the Pak Government duly informed about our views regarding the infiltrations across the borders.

(d) and (e) Government are aware that the Pak Defence forces continue to be in a state of operational preparedness. Our armed forces are adequately prepared to meet any eventuality that may arise.

### Successful launching of Insat-ID Satellite

125. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has successfully launched INSAT-ID Satellite from Cape Canaveral, Florida on the 12th June, 1990;

(b) to what extent this would augment India's space facilities in terms of communications, T.V. transmission etc.; and

(c) what plans have been drawn up to utilize the Satellite in different fields for the benefit of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) INSAT-ID will provide the continuity of all vital satellite based services in the areas of Telecommunications, nationwide TV and Radio Broadcasting, Meteorology and disaster warning which INSAT-IB has been providing so far. There is an INSAT Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of all concerned departments to ensure optimal utilization of the capabilities of the Satellite in different fields.

### Formulation of National Youth Policy

126. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a National Youth Policy; and