

to the notice of the Government of India where Sri Lankan Naval vessels have conducted raids on Indian fishing vessels operating within Indian territorial waters.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Celebration of Birth Anniversary of Veer Savarkar

*170. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposal to celebrate the anniversary of Veer Savarkar, a prominent freedom fighter;

(b) if so, what action is being contemplated by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have provided/propose to provide financial assistance to voluntary organisations for celebrating the birth anniversary of Veer Savarkar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if the reply to part (a) above be in, the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Government had provided financial assistance in favour Of Veer Savarkar Janam Shati Samaroh Samiti, Varanasi for 103rd and 106th birth anniversary of Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 20,000 respectively. Provision for anniversary celebrations is discontinued. Grants "sanctioned during the current year are restricted to centenaries/jubilees,

Disposal of cases by the Central Administrative Tribunals

*171. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the very objective of the setting up of Central Administrative Tribunals was to dispose of a case within 180 days and with minimum expenses of the parties;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that these objectives have proved to be a failure in so far as the Central Administrative Tribunal, Calcutta Bench is concerned; and

(c) if so, what corrective steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI VISHWAHATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The objective of setting up of the Central Administrative Tribunal which deals exclusively with the service matters of the Central Government employees, was to reduce the burden of various Courts (Subordinate! High Courts) and render speedy and inexpensive relief in respect of their grievances. Though there is no specific provision in the Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985 (13 of 1985) regarding the disposal of a case within 180 days of its institution, Rule 1402) of the CAT(Procedure) Rules, 1987, provides that every application shall be heard and decided *as far as possible* within Six months from the date of its registration. A nominal fee of Rs. 50/ only is required to be paid by a Government servant for filing an application before the Tribunal. It is not obligatory for him to engage a practising lawyer as he himself can defend his case before the Tribunal.

(b) and (c) No. Sir. The various benches of the C.A.T. have been adjudicating a large number of pending