

(e) what are the names of States which have not yet formed such Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The scheme has been operational from November, 1985.

(b) and (c) Under this Scheme, the Board seeks to encourage the active involvement of Voluntary Agencies in promoting awareness and understanding of the, programme of afforestation on wastelands, with special attention to their ability to inspire people's involvement therein.

To consider specific project proposals from Voluntary Agencies, Project Approval Committee has been constituted in the National Wastelands Development Board, chaired by Chairman, NWDB, with Member Secretary, NWDB, Financial Adviser, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Joint Secretary (NWDB), Addl. Inspector General of Forests, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, Shri DR. Bhumla, Retired Agricultural Commissioner, Shri Bankar Roy, Adviser Planning Commission, Shri Anil Agarwal, Centres for Science and Environment Deputy Director General (Council for People's Action and Rural Technology), Shri Vijay Mahajan, Executive Director, (Professional Assistance for Development Action). Publicity of the scheme instituted by the Board has been done through brochures, newsletters of major voluntary agencies and seminars/workshops. Detailed guidelines and a format for furnishing all the data required to process the grants in-aid application have also been printed and circulated.

Grants are considered and given to Non-profit Organisations registered agencies, cooperatives, trusts. Organised Schools, Colleges and Universities and people's organisations at the grass root level like Mahila Mandals and Yuvak Mangal Dais.

Grants are given for activities directly or indirectly connected with afforestation. Nursery raising, tree plantation, publicity, awareness raising and evaluation studies are considered for assistance. Priority is given to the establishment of decentralised

people's nurseries and school nurseries, block plantations, specially On community land anti lands of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and rural poor living below the poverty line, pasture development and assistance in implementation of Tree Patta Scheme.

(d) Grants are generally sanctioned for 3 years for a project.

(e) Statement indicates the position. [See Appendix CXL, Annexure No. 87]

Cost of 11th International Film Festival

2293. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

1 a) What is the likely cost to the National Exchequer on account of 11th International Film Festival to be held in New Delhi from January 10 to 24, 1987;

f b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Times of India of 5th November, 1986 under the caption 'Film action panel to boycott Festival'; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to arrive at a settlement amicably with members of the action committee and ensure success of the film festival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Rs. 80.40 lakhs approximately.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is hoped that a settlement will be reached between the Government of Maharashtra and the Film Industry at a very early date. This Ministry is making all possible efforts to help the two parties to reach a settlement.

Freedom Fighters pension to Goa Freedom Fighters

2294. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pensions under Swatantrata Sainik Pension Scheme have also been

made available to the 'Ooa Freedom Fighters';

(b) if not whether such proposal is under consideration of Government;

(c) whether any proposal in this regard has been forwarded by the Government to the Maharashtra Government for its consideration; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question do not arise.

Conversion of Central Nuclear Board into a Corporation

2295.. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the Central Nuclear Board into Corporation and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is considering a proposal for converting the existing Nuclear Power Board into a Corporation.

(b) Details of the proposal are being worked out.

Gadgil Formula

2296. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) what are the details of the Gadgil Formula;

(b) what are the names of the States which have sought changes in it; and

(c) what are the reasons for which these States have sought the changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM). (a) The Modified Gadgil Formula as approved by the National Development Council in August, 1980 for the allocation of Central assistance to State Plans is as under:

I. A lumpsum amount is set apart for meeting the requirements of eight special category States, viz., Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

II. The balance of the Central assistance is to be allocated among the remaining 14 States in the following manner: -

(i) 60 per cent on the basis of population;

(ii) 20 per cent on the basis of per capita income—only to States having per capita income below the national average;

(iii) 10 per cent on the basis of tax effort;

(iv) 10 per cent for special problems of States.

(b) The States which have suggested changes in the Modified Gadgil Formula include Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The States have sought changes in the Modified Gadgil Formula on different grounds. The less developed States have pleaded to increase the weightage given to the per capita income criterion so as to channelise larger flow of assistance to them. States which are sparsely populated have advocated for inclusion of 'area' as one of the criteria for distribution of Central assistance. Some States have pleaded to give more weightage to tax effort and consider it in relation to factors like taxable capacity and size of the State. Some of the other reasons advanced are to give weightage to the factors