

- (c) whether Government has constituted a Committee in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (d) Some members of the General Council of Lalit Kala Akademi have filed a writ petition (No. 11341/2009) in the High Court of Delhi alleging various procedural irregularities in the functioning of the Akademi. In pursuance of the directions of the said High Court, the Government has constituted a committee of persons of eminence and experience to look into the petitioners' grievances and submit a report in the matter. The committee has begun its work.

150 Years of Gurudev

2947. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to observe 150 years of Gurudev Rabindranath Thakur; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration.

Research Base Himadri

2948. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a research base Himadri has started its operation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the research so far made by the said base;
- (c) the details of the expenditure incurred in setting up of said base; and
- (d) the extent to which it has so far obtain its objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. India established a research station at Arctic named 'Himadri' at Ny-Alesund in Svalbard region of Norway during the second Indian Arctic expedition which was inaugurated by the then Hon'ble Minister of Earth Sciences on 1st July, 2008 and since is in operation.