

(b) Out of 69 Research Management Scientific posts under the Council, 12 posts are lying vacant at present. Against this, the recommendations of the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board have been received for 5 posts and these are under consideration. The recommendations of the Board for the remaining 7 posts are awaited.

Interim arrangements for looking after the work of these posts have been made wherever found necessary.

#### **Exploratory drilling in Southern region**

982. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether exploratory drilling in North Tapti, Gulf of Cambay, Palk Bay, Andhra Offshore, Kasargod Offshore and Andaman Offshore have been carried out; and

(b) if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : (a) Exploratory drilling had been carried out by the ONGC in the Gulf of Cambay and the Palk Bay. They had also taken up drilling in North Tapti but this had to be temporarily given up due to encountering of high pressure gas which threatened the safety of the rig.

Drilling is currently in progress in the Andhra Offshore and Andaman Offshore by the ONGC. Drilling has not yet been done in the Kasargod Offshore.

(b) Gas has been found in the Gulf of Cambay in two structures viz., South Tapti and Mid Tapti. The well drilled in the Palk Bay was found dry.

#### **Complaints from the resident<sup>^</sup> of Bania Para, Aligarh regarding irregularities in the register of mutation of houses**

983. SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Local Self Government and Municipal Board, U.P. have received complaints from Members of Parliament about the irregularities being committed in the Register of Mutation of Houses maintained in the House Tax Department by the Municipal Board, Aligarh;

(b) if so, what is the number of complaints received so far in the Municipal Board, Aligarh and in the Local Self Government Department, U.P. in this regard and what action Government have taken thereon;

(c) whether it is also a fact that notices for recovery of house tax are being issued to those persons who are actually not the owners of houses in that locality;

(d) if so, what is the number of such cases and what steps Government have taken to trace the real owners of those houses; and

(e) what are the reasons for delay in taking action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

#### **Sanitation drive in villages**

984. SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to start massive sanitation drive in villages;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI); (a) At present there is no proposal under consideration to start a massive sanitation drive in the villages.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present strategy of the Government is to concentrate first on provision of potable drinking water to the villages within a denned time-span and thereafter take up the question of sanitation. Meanwhile the experience gained from pilot rural sanitation projects will be utilized to develop a proper approach.

#### **Review of rural employment policy**

985. SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review the present rural employment policy; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN); (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The question of providing gainful employment in the rural areas is engaging the attention of the Government of India and the existing policy of rural employment is under review.

The Integrated Rural Development (IRD) programme aims at generating employment opportunities in the rural areas. Presently, this programme covers 2,600 development blocks out of the total of 5,011 blocks in the country. For generating jobs on a larger scale and at a faster rate Government are considering the possibility of covering all the development blocks in the country under IRD programme.

Another employment generation programme is the National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for Self

Employment (TRYSEM). To begin with 200,000 rural youth are to be covered under this scheme every year. Training in various technical skills, required for setting up rural industries, is being arranged under this scheme. Thereafter the rural youth are to be extended the facilities of tools and equipment, finance, raw materials and marketing in order to settle them in various projects of self-employment. The objective is to utilise raw materials available locally and to produce goods of popular consumption locally. Apart from providing additional employment, this scheme would relieve pressure on land also. It is proposed to enlarge the scope of this scheme, so as to cover certain crafts and industries like carpet weaving, cottage match, etc. which would provide wage employment on a large scale. A deliberate effort would, however be made to upgrade wage earners gradually into partners in the enterprises.

The 'Food for Work' programme will continue to provide employment to the unskilled manpower on a sustained basis. Its operations are proposed to be stream-lined in order to make it a more effective instrument for generation of employment for the rural poor.

Under the 20-Point Programme new job opportunities for the hand-loom weavers, the landless, rural artisans etc. will be created on a significant scale.

#### **Educational Institutions run by Harijan/Girijan people**

986. SHRI PANDURANG DHARAM AJI JADHAV: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the educational institutions which have been founded and managed by the Harijan/Girijan people at present;