

shall not be counted against the aforesaid four opportunities. Instructions have also been issued to the effect that applications of Government servants should be forwarded as a rule. In case it is decided to withhold the application on the ground of public interest, the decision should be taken at a high level and with utmost objectivity rather than mechanically.

Reserved vacancies in Government Departments

1164. SHRI PANDURANG DHARMAJI JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken for the completion of the backlog in respect of the reserved vacancies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Government Departments; and

(b) what are the measures taken to constantly keep a watch on completion of the backlog in this behalf in all the Departments under the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL):

(a) and (b) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted to go into the question of inadequate representation of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the various services and grades under the Government and to suggest ways and means for making up the deficiency in their representation within a period of 3-5 years according to a phased programme.

Distribution of resources to States

1165. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of representations received from the State Governments regarding distribution or transfer to resources from corporation tax, surcharge on income-tax, ad-

ditional duties of excise on sugar, tobacco, textiles and consignment tax;

(b) what are the names of the States from which such representations have been received and when these were received; and

(c) what action the Central Government have taken on each representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR REHMAN): (a) to (c) In the meetings of the NDC Committee and its Working Group on Centre-State Financial Relations and the meetings of the NDC also, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal pleaded for inclusion of corporation tax in the divisible pool. Karnataka, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal also pleaded for inclusion of surcharge on Income-tax in the divisible pool. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat suggested review of the working of the scheme of replacement of sales tax on sugar, tobacco and textiles by additional excise duties. Besides, Bihar and Gujarat referred to the loss of revenue due to avoidance of Central sales tax on inter-State transactions on account of the device of consignment transfers resorted to by the dealers, and urged suitable amendment of the Constitution to deal with this problem. Several other States also made a similar suggestion in discussions with Planning Commission from time to time.

The Constitution (49th Amendment) Bill, 1979 introduced in the Lok Sabha on March 15, 1979 includes, inter alia, provisions to enable the Parliament to levy taxes on the consignments of goods where such consignment takes place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce and assignment of the reve-

nue therefrom to the States. The other matters are proposed to be discussed in the Conference of State Chief Ministers to be held on May 19-20, 1979.

Gadgil formula for Central assistance under Sixth Plan

1166. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any representations from State Governments to accept Gadgil formula for Central assistance under the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and which States have made such representations;

(c) what decisions Government have taken on these representations; and

(d) by when the decisions taken are likely to be communicated to the concerned State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR REHMAN): (a) The question of Central Assistance was considered at the meeting of the N.D.C. held on 24th and 25th of February, 1979. In that meeting, it was decided that of the total Central assistance available for State Plans for the four years 1979-83, Rs. 1800 crores should be reserved for special category States, Rs. 600 crores for special problems of States and Rs. 4200 crores distributed among the 14 non-special category States, on the basis of the various criteria laid down in the Gadgil Formula, except the one relating to special problems. Besides, it was decided that an amount of Rs. 2000 crores to be released over the next four years by certain modifications in the Central and Centrally-sponsored schemes should be distributed among the 14 non-special category States on the basis of Income Adjusted Total Population of each State (IATP), i.e. the inverse of per capita

State income multiplied by population. Besides, additional Central assistance is being given for hill and tribal areas, the programme of the North Eastern Council and externally-aided schemes.

Since then, no representation has been received from any State Government for a change or modification in these decisions.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Review of the ISRO's functioning

1167. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any review of the functioning of the Indian Space Research Organisation in terms of its technological feasibility;

(b) if so, what are the findings of the review; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative whether Government propose to review the functioning of the Indian Space Research Organisation in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The review has indicated that for a country of the size of India, the Space Programmes, undertaken after examination of their technical feasibility are eminently suited for application of space research for identified large scale national tasks such as rapid enhancement of literacy and national integration through mass communications and the effective and timely management of our natural resources and providing warning for natural disasters and monitoring their effects.

(c) Does not arise.