

**Rural development project on bio-diesel**

\*291. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the latest status of the proposal of the State Government of Gujarat for funding of Rural Development Project on Bio-diesel worth Rs. 2745.87 lakhs for five years, i.e. 2008 to 2012-13;

(b) the reasons for its pendency; and

(c) by when the demanded funds are likely to be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (c) Rural Development Department, Govt. of Gujarat has informed that no such project on bio-diesel has been proposed for funding to the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development.

**Proper use of computers in Gram Panchayats in H.P.**

†\*292. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the computers provided by Government in the Gram Panchayats in the country, particularly in 3243 computer facilitated Gram Panchayats of Himachal Pradesh, are being properly use;

(b) if so, whether Government has provided any training to one representative or Assistant or Secretary from each Gram Panchayat to operate the computer;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The computers provided by States to the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country, including GPs in Himachal Pradesh, are being used.

(b) and (c) Training of Panchayat functionaries is the responsibility of the States. However, in addition to the funds provided by State Governments provisions for capacity building and training are

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

also available in the schemes of Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) and Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), such as Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana (RGSY) and MGNREGS. In Himachal Pradesh, the Panchayati Raj Department has imparted Basic Computer Training to the Panchayat Secretary/Panchayat Sahayak.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Average age of Air India employees**

\*293. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of employees Air India has on its rolls at present;
- (b) the number of employees who will retire over the next two years, i.e. till end of 2011; and
- (c) the average age of Air India employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) The total number of employees in Air India as on 31.10.2010 is 28609.

(b) From 01.11.2010 to 31.12.2011, 1337 employees will superannuate.

(c) Average age of Air India employees as on 31.10.2010 is 46.33 years.

#### **Tax information exchange agreement**

\*294. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to sign an agreement with the Virgin Islands and the Isle of Man for exchange of information on tax evasion by Indians is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether such a move of Government will help to check parking of black money slashed in foreign banks by Indians;

(c) whether Government has already inked a Tax Information Exchange Agreement with some foreign countries; and