

(d) whether Government would consider steps, including reservation in private sector, to improve the percentage of SCs in the private sector employment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Information about caste/community of private sector employees is not collected by the Govt.

(b) and (c) Based on a sample survey conducted by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), of the manpower mix among its member companies in 22 States/UTs, representation of Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) employees in CII companies has been projected as follows:

Region	Total No. of Employees (in lakhs)	Estimated % of SC/ST
Southern	5.8	16.2
Northern	4.4	22
Western	23	16
Eastern	1.6	24

The above survey did not cover states of North-Eastern region.

(d) and (e) A high level Coordination Committee has been constituted in October 2006, to carry forward the dialogue with Industry on affirmative action in the private sector. The Coordination Committee has been holding meetings with apex chambers from time to time.

Private airport at Aranmula

*70. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for establishing a private airport at Aranmula has been received by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether final approval for the project has been given; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and the time frame by which Government proposes to give clearance to the project?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. had submitted a proposal to the Government of India for grant of 'site clearance' for setting up of an International Airport at Aranmula-Pathanamthitta district in Kerala.

(c) The proposal was examined in consultation with Ministry of Defence and Airports Authority of India (AAI) and was not agreed to for site clearance.

(d) Does not arise.

Grant for preparation of district level database

*71. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a grant for preparing district level database to support State Planning Commission, which in turn can inform the national Planning Commission to decide on the allocation of funds to the local bodies;

(b) the kind of data that is available with the Zila Parishads for the purpose; and

(c) the steps the Ministry has taken to fill the information gap?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO): (a) and (b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Planning Commission do not operate any scheme for providing grants for preparation of district level database to support the State Planning Commissions.

However, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, the India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) for implementation from 2010-11. The objective of the ISSP is to strengthen the capacity of the State Statistical systems.

Besides, the 13th Finance Commission (13th FC) has recommended a grant of Rs.616 crore over its award period 2010-15, to further improve and strengthen the statistical system at district level.

The key statistical activities identified for taking up under the ISSP and 13th FC grants, which include filling up existing gaps in the availability of data, are given in Statement I and II respectively (See below).

The statistical data base generated at the district level is made available generally by the District Statistical Officer to the various user organisations including the Zilla Parishads.