

to the financial assistance for running the five shelter homes in Vrindavan and Mathura, U.P. for the welfare of widows.

The Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment is also implementing the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons under which financial assistance is given to voluntary organizations for running and maintenance of among others, 'Multi Facility Care Centre for Widows'.

The Ministry of Rural Development is administering the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme under which Central assistance @ Rs. 200/- per month is provided as pension to widow in the age group 40-59 years and belonging to BPL category, which is meant to be supplemented by equal contributed by States.

Human Resource Problem of ISRO

1822. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether ISRO is facing human resource as a major problem; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) ISRO/DOS had adequate quality human resources to realize the goals of 11th five year plan. ISRO has drawn up extensive and challenging goals to be realized during the 12th five year plan and beyond, including advanced launch vehicle missions, high resolution earth observation satellites, advanced high power communication satellites constellation of Indian Regional Navigation Satellites, Space Science and Planetary Exploration Satellites, for which an addition of 2500 persons in the category of Scientists, Engineers, Technicians and Administrative area is contemplated.

International Conspiracy in Antrix-Devas Deal

1823. SHRI D. RAJA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the opinion made by the former Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) that he would not discount the possibility of an international conspiracy in raking up a controversy over the Antrix-Devas deal, targeting the nation's top scientists;
- (b) whether he has demanded the constitution of a committee to comprehensively review the entire issue; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) The two committee's (i) The High Power Review Committee