

(c) and (d) There is no provision under e-Panchayat MMP for providing broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats in the country. However, the Government has approved the Scheme for creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) for providing broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats. Under NOFN, three pilot projects have been sanctioned to cover Gram Panchayats of Arain Block in Ajmer District (Rajasthan), Panisagar Block in North Tripura District (Tripura), Paravada Block in Visakhapatnam District (A.P.). A total of 58 Gram Panchayats have been provided with 100 Mbps bandwidth each in these three blocks till 15.10.2012.

(e) and (f) States facing power supply problems in Gram Panchayats have been advised to provide solar PV Power Packs.

#### **Number of working days of the Parliament**

2248. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the present deplorable functioning of the Parliament, would the Ministry think of preparing any plan so that Parliament atleast function for 100 days;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, please give the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since 1993 when the Standing Committee system was introduced, the number of days in the Budget Session have got reduced by about 3-4 weeks as the two Houses have to be adjourned for recess to enable the Departmentally related Standing Committees to consider the Demands of Grants for various Ministries/Departments and make their reports. Therefore, if the reduction in the number of sittings on account of recess period of the Houses is taken in to account, the number of year-wise sittings of the two Houses would be around 100 per year.

#### **Reservation of SC/ST in promotion**

2249. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Attorney General of India has suggested Government that the proposed Bill for reservation of SCs/STs in promotion in Government jobs is erroneous;