

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING) : (a) to (f) The Government has not set up any committee seeking suggestions for effective implementation of the minority specific development plan. However, the Government has set up an Expert Committee for the establishment of five universities with a special focus on minorities. Another Committee to consider feasibility of establishment of the National Wakf Development Corporation was established in January, 2013.

Separate department for minorities in States

†731. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the States where, as per the instruction of the Central Government, separate Department for Minority Affairs has been constituted;

(b) the amount of grant issued for various loans during the last two years to States who have formed the said Department; and

(c) the amount given by Governments as matching grant therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING) : (a) No instructions have been issued by the Central Government to the State Governments for setting up separate Departments for Minority Affairs. However, the National Development Council which approved the Twelfth Five Year Plan document in December, 2012 had accepted the recommendation that all State Governments will be asked to have a separate well endowed Department for Minorities Welfare.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Development of offshore wind energy

732. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the fifth biggest wind energy developer in the world and is looking to tap over 7,500 km. long coastline for development of offshore wind energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the implementation of offshore wind energy projects also depends upon firming up of the wind resource, oceanographic studies,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.