

(b) As per Entry 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, the subject of Land and its management is within the jurisdiction of States. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is that of an advisory nature.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Status of PMRDFs scheme

926. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellows (PMRDFs) scheme has been discontinued by Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of applications received by Government under this scheme, stipend provided to each selected applicant and the number of applicants who have been selected this year and during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply given at (a) above.

(c) Two rounds of selections for recruiting fellows to two batches has been completed, so far. For the first batch, out of 8560 applicants 156 fellows have been selected in the year 2012. For the second batch, out of 12178 applicants 160 fellows were selected in the year 2014. Fellows are paid a monthly stipend of ₹ 50,000/- during the training and ₹ 75,000/- in the first year with an increment of 10% in the second year.

Road connectivity in rural areas of Maharashtra

927. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a roadmap for road connectivity to difficult and sparsely populated areas of rural Maharashtra; and