

Review of Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972

*197. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to undertake comprehensive review of Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 and related orders issued by Government to carry out necessary revision of pension; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the review is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972, which regulate the policy relating to benefits of pension, gratuity and family pension of the Central Civil Government servants appointed on or before 31.12.2003, were notified in the year 1972. Thereafter several instructions/ orders and clarifications have been issued from time to time supplementing these rules. Government has initiated action to comprehensively review the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 and amalgamate the various instructions, orders and clarifications in the main rules itself. This would also involve consultation with the other concerned Ministries/ Departments such as Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) and Ministry of Law and Justice.

Visit of Minister to Nigeria

*198. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister has pledged to enhance cooperation in trade and defence deals with Nigeria; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of agreements/MoUs exchanged between India and Nigeria during the recent visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR): (a) Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan, visited Nigeria from 11-13 June 2019, his first visit abroad after assuming office, as PM's representative at the 'Democracy Day' celebrations in Abuja on 12 June. In his interactions with Nigerian leaders during the visit, both sides reviewed their bilateral cooperation.

(b) Relations between India and Nigeria are long-standing and multifaceted. Nigeria is our largest trading partner in Africa and the most populous and leading

economy of Africa. India is Nigeria's largest trading partner globally. During his visit, Minister of State for External Affairs had a brief exchange with President Muhammadu Buhari and met with Vice President Yemi Osinbajo. Both sides discussed ways and means of strengthening their bilateral cooperation, including trade and investment cooperation, developmental assistance, cooperation in the field of energy, defence, counter-terrorism and connectivity. No Agreements/MoUs were exchanged during the visit.

Central University for Sanskrit

*199. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up the first Central University for Sanskrit in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this university would be set up by converting three existing institutes through a single umbrella legislation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Three existing Deemed to be Universities namely Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Delhi, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati are proposed to be converted into Central Universities for Sanskrit under a single umbrella legislation. The proposal is presently at Inter-Ministerial Consultations stage.

Condition of tribals in Chhattisgarh

†*200. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of traditional accommodations of tribal communities in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the measures taken by the Central as well as State Governments to protect the lives of tribal communities in that State;
- (c) the details of tribal communities still staying in the dilapidated houses without toilets along with the number of children leaving school at primary level in the State;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.