

being inflicted on it. Anyhow, we will take note of this. But we have not yet notified it.

श्री ललितभाई मेहता: सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जो इंडियन फॉरेस्ट ऐक्ट है, फॉरेस्ट कंजर्वेशन ऐक्ट है, इंडियन एंबॉयनमेंट ऐक्ट है उसमें प्रावधान ऐसे हैं जिसके कारण विकास की प्रक्रियाएं विभिन्न राज्यों में स्थगित हो गई हैं और विभिन्न राज्यों ने इन सभी कानूनों में संशोधन करने के लिए, पूरा रिव्यू करने के लिए मांग की है। तो उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए मंत्री जी, क्या इन कानूनों को फिर से सोचने की दिशा में कुछ कदम उठा रहे हैं या नहीं?

SHRI T. R. BALLU: As of now, there is no such proposal. There is nothing on the Government's agenda to reconsider it.

SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Sir, the Aravalli Hills extend not only up to Haryana, but its remnants extend up to large portion of Delhi. For example, the Ridge is a part of the Aravalli. Now, we find that the Ridge in Delhi has been encroached upon by the Defence Ministry; they have put up their quarters there; not only that, one hotel has also come up there. I agree that the matter went up to the Supreme Court; but an exception was made. Why doesn't the Minister issue a notification on what constitutes the Ridge?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, specific measures have been taken to protect the Delhi Ridge. A total of 7777 hectares of the Ridge have been declared as 'reserved forest' on 24.5.1994. An area of 4707 acres of Asola and 2167 acres of Bhati Mines, which is a part of the southern Ridge, has been notified as sanctuary. An Eco Task Force was constituted for restoration of 2001 acres of the Bhati Mines area, which is a part of the Asola-Bhati sanctuary in the southern Ridge. A work-plan for five years commenced in 2001-02. Plantation and soil conservation measures have been taken up by the Forest Department. Twenty check-dams have been constructed. The Forest Department has also planted two lakh seedlings to improve the ecology of the area.

Uniform staffing pattern in Central Universities

*444. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC has set up a Committee to consider

uniform staffing pattern, conditions of service for the employees of Central Universities;

(b) if so, whether that Committee has completed its task and submitted its recommendations; and

(c) if so, the gist of the recommendations and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The UGC has set up a Joint Cadre Review Committee to recommend, *inter-alia*, norms for determining the number of non-teaching posts at different levels in the Central Universities and uniform conditions of service for the non-teaching employees.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the demands of the university non-teaching staff for a uniform national pay-structure and uniform service conditions are pending for a long time. Would the hon. Minister instruct the U.G.C. to expedite it so that it is settled without any further delay?

डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सभापति महोदय, यह वास्तविक तथ्य है कि यह प्रश्न बहुत दिनों से लम्बित रहा है लेकिन हमने अभी विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग को ऐसे सभी प्रकरणों को शीघ्र-अति-शीघ्र पूरा करने की ओर अपनी सिफारिशें हमारे पास भेजने की हिदायत दी है और मैं यह आशा करता हूँ कि यह काम शीघ्र पूरे होंगे।

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Sir, at present, the non-teaching staff of the universities have no representation on the Executive Council, on the Senate or on any other managing committees. Therefore, would the hon. Minister initiate steps for providing representation of the non-teaching staff on the managing committees?

डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी: महोदय, यह प्रश्न हमारे विश्वविद्यालय की स्वायत्तता से भी सम्बन्धित है। इस बारे में कोई सिफारिशें यदि हमारे पास आयेगी और यू० जी० सी० उन पर अपनी टिप्पणी देगा, तभी हम इस पर विचार कर सकेंगे।

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to when the Committee was constituted and what are its terms of reference? Is there any time-limit for submitting its report?

डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी: महोदय, यह कमेटी वर्ष 2000 में बनी थी और इसके टर्म्स ऑफ रैफरेंसिज़ आठ हैं।

- (1) To rationalise the pay-scales of non-teaching staff, Group B, C and D, of Central Universities and UGC maintained deemed universities, with reference to the Central pay scales accepted by the Government.
- (2) Remove anomalies between organisations and make them consistent with the Central pay-scales accepted by the Government of India.
- (3) To suggest ways and means to improve the financial efficiency of non-teaching staff of Central and deemed universities.
- (4) To identify, if any, disparities or distortions in the pay-scales of different categories of non-teaching employees in the Central and deemed universities.
- (5) Uniform cadre structure and rationalisation of pay-scales, duties, qualification of the posts of non-teaching staff—Group 'A' Officers—which are not covered under the Pay Review Committee of the Teaching Staff.
- (6) To lay down norms of guidelines for determining the number of posts at different levels so that there is an optimum ratio between posts at higher level and smooth functioning at the lower level, to ensure efficiency.
- (7) To recommend the correct ratio of teaching/non-teaching staff to be maintained in the organisation, based on the conditions and environment under which the organisation is working.
- (8) To recommend uniform terms and conditions of service for non-teaching staff so as to incorporate the same in the Act/statutes of the Central Universities, deemed universities, etc., for future.

SHRI RANGANATH MISRA: Sir, would the hon. Minister consider location of a Central University in Orissa, in view of the backwardness of the State?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, this supplementary does not arise out of the main question. There is already a question coming up later, which has been put by my friend, Shri Janeshwar Mishra. But I can assure that, under the guidelines of NEP, the UGC and the Planning

Commission's recommendations, if there are proposals, we can consider. At the moment, the NEP says that there is no need to open new Central Universities; instead, the existing universities should be strengthened. I can assure the hon. Member that if the UGC recommends upgradation or assistance to any University in Orissa, the Ministry will be too happy to help it.

पर्यावरण रक्षा जागरूकता

*445. श्री हरीश रावत: क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उनका मंत्रालय पर्यावरण की दृष्टि से संवेदनशील राज्यों में पर्यावरण रक्षा जागरूकता को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए कोई कार्य योजना बना रहा है;

(ख) क्या ऐसे राज्यों में विद्यालयों के पाठ्यक्रमों में वन और पर्यावरण संवर्धन को शामिल किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री (श्री टी० आर० बालू): (क) सरकार जनता के बीच पर्यावरणीय जागरूकता पैदा करने के उद्देश्य से वर्ष 1986 से प्रत्येक वर्ष, राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण जागरूकता अभियान (एन ई ए सी) नामक राष्ट्रव्यापी अभियान पहले से ही चला रही है।

(ख) और (ग) सभी राज्यों के स्कूली पाठ्यक्रमों/पाठ्य पुस्तकों में पर्यावरण से संबंधित विषय पहले ही सम्मिलित कर दिए गए हैं। परन्तु इस प्रकार शामिल किए गए विषयों को सुस्पष्ट करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार ने विश्व बैंक की सहायता से 8 राज्यों में प्रायोगिक परियोजना शुरू की है।

Environment protection awareness

†*445. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests are preparing some action plan to encourage environment protection awareness in the States, that are sensitive from environment point of view;

(b) whether there is a proposal to include forest and environment promotion in the school courses in such States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.