

[Translation]

Performance of Autonomous Colleges

3020. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the autonomous colleges has been evaluated by the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). UGC had appointed an Expert Committee to review the implementation of the Scheme of Autonomous Colleges. The Committee submitted its report to the Commission in March, 1991. Some of the important recommendations of the Committee are.

— Keeping in view the objective of the Scheme which is to bring about major structural changes in the higher education system, it should be continued during the 8th Plan period.

— An appropriate mechanism should be established at the State level for effective monitoring of the Scheme.

— Immediate action should be taken for amendment of the Acts of the universities and formulation of Statutes to make an enabling provision for conferral of autonomous status on colleges.

— The State Governments should not transfer the teachers from Government autonomous colleges and should also sort out the prob-

lems of increased work load of teachers for these colleges, besides fulfilling the system of block grants for maintenance purposes.

— The State Governments and the universities should hold regular meetings with the Principles of autonomous colleges for coordination and resolving of issues.

— The University should accept the decisions of the autonomous colleges regarding new courses and flexibility in course combinations.

— The autonomous colleges should prepare perspective plans for development, activate Finance Committee as well as Planning and Evaluation Committees.

The Commission accepted the report of the Committee in its meeting held on 6th June, 1991 and agreed to continue the Scheme of Autonomous Colleges in the 8th Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Tourism Development in Tamil Nadu

3021. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in Tamil Nadu on international tourism map; and

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to develop these spots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Tamil Nadu has a number of tourist spots which are on the international tourism

circuit such as Madras, Mamallapuram, Thanjavur, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Chidambaram, etc.

(b) The Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 437.67 lakhs to Tamil Nadu for development of Tourism infrastructure in the State during the 7th Plan period. Similarly, Rs. 134.47 lakhs were sanctioned during 1990-91. For 1991-92, Rs. 142 lakhs has been earmarked for such schemes.

Deletion of Jhudpi Jungle from Forest (Conservation) Act

3022. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra to delete the "Jhudpi Jungle" located in Vidarbha region in Maharashtra from the ambit of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total area covered under the Jhudpi Jungle;

(c) the details of the irrigation and road projects held up on the Jhudpi Jungle; and

(d) the present position regarding clearance for delinking the Jhudpi Jungle from the ambit of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total area covered under the Jhudpi Jungle in Maharashtra is 9,23,913.10 hectares. The State Government has proposed that Jhudpi Jungle classified as C class, D class, E class and unclassified be treated as non forest area.

(c) As on 30.11.1991 no irrigation or

road project is pending with the Central Government involving diversion of Jhudpi Jungle.

(d) On receiving proposals from Maharashtra Government they were advised to look into the matter in depth. The State Government appointed an inter-disciplinary team to look into entire issue of Jhudpi Jungle. The Committee has submitted its report to the State Government of Maharashtra. The issue was discussed in detail by Minister of State for Environment and Forests with State Government officials and public representatives at Bombay and Nagpur during November, 1991. It was decided that the Committee's report would be examined by the State Government alongwith their recommendations, after receipt of which, decision would be taken by the Central Government expeditiously. Discussions are being actively held with State Government in this matter.

Computer Facilities in Colleges

3023. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plans for development of computer facilities in colleges/schools/Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country;

(b) if so, the details there and estimated total cost of implementing the first phase thereof; and

(c) the universities which are proposed to be assisted for setting up computer centres?