

recommended that consideration should be given to the constitution of similar committees in other States. The Ministers felt that renewed efforts should be made with a view to avoiding frivolous litigation involving Government.

13. The Law Ministers further noted that the laws of procedure and evidence were in need of reform.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS

14. The Law Ministers recalled that the Resolution of CMs and CJs considered that the recommendations made therein should, *mutatis mutandis*, be enforced even in respect of administrative tribunals and that Government should undertake an examination of problems connected with arrears of cases in those tribunals. In particular, they had drawn attention to the recommendations in the said Resolution with regard to, among other things, fixation of time-limits within which proposals for appointment of members of tribunals ought to be processed, periodic review of the optimum strength of members in each tribunal, granting of adjournments only in exceptional circumstances, time-limits for oral arguments, need for short judgments, grouping of cases, provision of modern equipments to tribunals, priority to old cases, and the need for reserved judgments to be given within a reasonable time.

15. The Law Ministers noted that the Working Group on administrative tribunals reviewed the working of administrative tribunals constituted by the Central Government. They took note of Doc. No. LMM (WG-III)/94/3 containing a working paper on "Review of the Working of Administrative Tribunals".

16. The Law Ministers agreed that the recommendations in the Resolution of the CMs and CJs in respect of administrative tribunals should be implemented as early as possible. They considered that vacancies in these tribunals should be filled up without delay so that the arrears did not mount.

17. The Law Ministers also considered that the tenure of appointment of members of the tribunals should be for fairly longer periods and that the provisions in various enactments in this regard should be reviewed.

18. The Law Ministers also emphasised that care should be taken to ensure that only persons who have, among other things, requisite ability to handle cases, proper personal conduct and ethical behaviour, firmness and fearlessness were appointed as members of tribunals.

19. The Law Ministers were also of the opinion that disputes between Government and public sector undertakings and one public sector undertaking and another public sector undertaking ought not to go to courts or tribunals and that such disputes should be settled between the parties amicably.

20. The Law Ministers also considered that the selection committee constituted for making recommendations for appointment of members of tribunals should be headed by the Chief Justice of India or his nominee at the Central level, and by the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court or his nominee at

the State level, and that such a selection committee should be a standing body.

21. The Law Ministers also considered that the administrative control over all tribunals at both central and state levels should be entrusted to a single Ministry/Department.

22. The Law Ministers were also of the opinion that orders passed by administrative bodies should invariably be speaking orders so that tribunals could appreciate what actually weighed with the authorities in taking their decisions.

23. The Law Ministers expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of West Bengal for inviting them to hold the present plenary meeting in Calcutta and making all efforts to make it successful.

Calcutta.

17 November 1994.

#### Registrars of Companies

2187. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of disputes arising between investing public and companies has increased manifold over the years as a sequel to tenfold increase of equity based companies; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for streamlining the functioning of Registrars of companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) There has been a growth in the number of investor complaints over the years consequent to the increase in the shareholding of the public.

(b) complaints received in the Department of Company Affairs are processed through a computerised system. In appropriate cases, the Registrar of Companies are advised to initiate penal proceedings against companies and the officers in default. The Registrars of Companies are also receiving investor complaints directly and have been asked to give them priority attention.

[Translation]

#### Remote Sensing

2188. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up and Indo-French joint venture in the field of remote sensing and to manufacture small satellites.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) (a) to (c) No, Sir, However, under the Agreement signed in 1993 between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the French Space Agency (CNES), forms of the cooperation envisaged include study of cooperative programmes in Satellites and Balloons intended for Space Research and Applications of Space Technology, studies related to Satellite Communications, Satellite Remote Sensing and Satellite Meteorology Applications, operations of ground stations and satellite missions management, organisation of training facilities and programmes, exchange of technical and scientific personnel to participate in studies and joint working groups. Specific programmes under this cooperative agreement are under various stages of negotiation.

[English]

#### Funds for Terrorist Affected Areas

2189 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide special funds to States for terrorist affected areas, and

(b) if so, the details thereof, area-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) (a) There is no proposal before the Planning Commission to provide special funds to States for terrorist affected areas

(b) Does not arise

[Translation]

#### White Paper on Central Assistance to J & K

2190 SHRI CHETAN P S CHAUHAN  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to issue a white paper on Central assistance and grants provide to Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI). (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### National Institute of Information Technology

2191. DR (SHRIMATI) K S SOUNDARAM. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government are aware of the activities of the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) and its various courses offered for Graduates, Associates and Fellows of NIIT,

(b) if so, whether this has the approval of the Government, and

(c) if not, the action taken by the Government against the NIIT under the MRTPC for misleading advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H R BHARDWAJ) (a) to (c) Director General Investigation and Registration has asked NIIT to furnish copies of various advertisements released by it to enable him to examine the same with reference to provisions of MRTP Act, 1969 relating to unfair trade practices. As regards GNIIT course of NIIT, the Commission has already issued notice of enquiry. MRTP Commission being a quasi-judicial body, the matter is subjudice.

[Translation]

#### Falling of Snow Rocks

2192 SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the scientists in the country have developed a technique to prevent falling of snow rocks on Highways or on populated areas,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the areas in which this technique is proposed to be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir 'Snow rocks' are large pieces which may get detached from the glacier snow mass which is found at higher altitudes. Highways and populated areas do not exist at these high altitudes. However, techniques for containing snow avalanches in the lower altitude regions have been developed by the scientists.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

#### Houses to Slum Dwellers

2193 SHRI R ANBARASU Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to provide houses to slum dwellers in all metropolitan cities, particularly Madras, with the World Bank aid, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?