

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (d). According to the information valuable with the Central Government, only 10 officers belonging to the Indian Forest Service have been deputed for assignments under the UN and other agencies during the last five years. This is a small number considering the total number of Indian Forest Service officer which was 1587 as on 1.1.1986.

Deputation of officers under assignments abroad exposes them to new ideas and work experience in other countries which add to their utility for this country on their return. It will not, therefore, be desirable to prevent the officers from taking up such assignments especially since the number of such officers is quite limited.

Setting up of sugar factory near Pollachi

1796. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any application for setting up a sugar factory near Pollachi has been pending; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which decision thereon will be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). An application for setting up a new sugar factory of 1500 T.C.D. at Pollachi in District Coimbatore from Shri K.V. Kandaswamy was received by the Central Government. It was considered and a rejection letter has been issued to the party on 31-3.1986.

Census operation in Assam

1797. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have decided to hold census operation in Assam;

(b) whether the Union Home Ministry had written to the Government of Assam seeking the State Government's cooperation in holding of a census;

(c) if so, the reaction of the State Government; and

(d) the further steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). The question of holding of a census in Assam was considered in consultation with the Government of Assam. That Government is currently engaged in the implementation of the Assam accord and is not in a position to provide enumeration agency for conduct of census. As such it is not possible to hold a census in Assam at this stage.

Declaration of State animal, bird, tree and flower

1798. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government in consultation with the various State Governments have decided to declare one animal, one bird, one tree and one flower as State Animal, bird, tree and flower respectively for each state;

(b) if so, whether the selection has been made in respect of all the States;

(c) if so, the names of such State animal, bird, tree and flower for which the decision has been taken; and

(d) the likely date by which the decision remaining regarding the States would be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) A suggestion was given to all States and Union Territories to adopt their own state animal, bird, tree and flower to focus attention on the indigenous nature of particular species,