

of chemicals and for pharmaceutical purposes;

(b) if so, whether any experiment has been made;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) steps taken to standardize the technology of mass culture of sea weeds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) (i) Know-how has been developed by CSIR for (a) Sodium Alginate (b) Agar Agar. These are colloids extracted from selected species of seaweeds. These are useful as jelling agents in food industry, as important components in dental impression moulds, and in preparation of cosmetics.

(ii) A process for liquid sea weed fertilizer from Sargassum Tannerium by hydrolysis is being developed.

(iii) Studies on Enteromorpha and Sargassum have shown promising results towards anti-bacterial activity.

(iv) Results on high protein and biologically active substances for pharmaceutical uses have been recorded from some species like Porphyra, Monostroma etc.

(d) (i) The cultivation of Gelidiella acerosa for agar industry has been carried out on pilot scale and has been evaluated. State Governments and industry are being pursued to take up larger scale

cultivation based on this knowhow.

(ii) Studies have also been initiated by National Institute of Oceanography, Goa to standardise seaweed farming in the coastal areas.

Rehabilitation of Children of Nellie Massacre

2261. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased in State :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to rehabilitate the destitute and orphaned children of the Nellie massacre in Assam in 1983; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A special project was formulated for rehabilitation of children rendered destitute during the Assam disturbance in 1983 in Nellie and other areas. Assistance is being provided to the (1) SOS Children's Villages of India and (2) Indian Council of Child Welfare for taking care of children. Grants are being given since 1983-84. During 1986-87 a sum of Rs. 7.36 lakhs has been provided.

Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States

2262. SHRIMATI BASAVARA-JESWARI : Will the Minister of PLAN-NING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the Centrally sponsored schemes are proposed to be either dropped or transferred to State sector as proposed by a Committee of National Development Council;

(b) whether a team of officials has scrutinised the list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes under implementation at the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the Central team of officials has examined the report submitted by the Committee of NDC; and

(d) number of schemes likely to be dropped or transferred to the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Committee of National Development Council (NDC) to examine the Ramamurti Committee Report on Centrally Sponsored Schemes, decided in its meeting, on 3-11-1986 that a Group of officials be constituted to go into the details and recommend to the committee possible transfer of some of these schemes to the State Plans.

(b) One of the terms of Reference of this Group of Officials, constituted in December, 1986, is to list all the Centrally Sponsored Schemes that were under implementation on 1-4-1985 and to consider which of these schemes need to be continued or dropped or transferred to the State Governments for implementation, and for those schemes to be transferred, the modalities of transfer, including the formula that would govern the transfer to individual States of the funds involved. This Group of Officials has met twice so far and the next meeting is expected in the first week of April, 1987.

(c) and (d). After finalisation, the Group will submit its report to the National Development Council Committee for further consideration of the matter and recommendation to the National Development Council.

Proposal to Utilise Services of Retired Employees

2263. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for the optimum use of the services of retired/retiring officers in Government Offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which such a scheme will prejudice the future of the next junior persons in service and the extent to which efficiency will deteriorate ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Assistance to National Park at Shivpuri

2264. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance given for the development of the National Park at Shivpuri in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) and b). The Central assistance given to the National Park at Shivpuri in Madhya Pradesh has been as under :

VIth Plan	VIIth Plan (so far)
Rs. 3,66,500	Rs. 4,78 000

Corruption in Government Offices

2265. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in spite of existing measures corruption is still prevalent in Government offices; and

(b) if so, what further steps are envisaged to root out corruption in Government offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Eradication of corruption is a continuous process. Such measures, administrative and legislative, as are considered necessary will continue to be taken in the fight against corruption. A comprehensive Prevention of Corruption Bill is being brought forward shortly to make the provisions of the existing Anti-Corruption Laws more effective.