

(c) and (d). In a separate scheme for Welfare of Children in need of care and protection, grants are provided to voluntary organisations through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for care and rehabilitation of destitute children. During 1986-87, a sum of Rs 2,49,89,552 was released under this scheme.

I.D.A. Aid to India

2448. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign aid proposed by IDA to India during the current year;

(b) whether there has been any slash in the volume of aid in comparison to previous years; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) At the Aid India Consortium meeting at Paris in June 1987 to discuss aid commitments for fiscal year 1988, ending 30th June 1988 it was indicated that World Bank group assistance to India would be US \$ 2.5 billion. No figure for IDA assistance was specified.

(b) The volume of IDA assistance to India during the current IDA Replenishment period (Fy 1988-1990) is expected to be higher than in the preceding IDA Replenishment period (Fy 1985-88).

(c) Does not arise.

Training for Civil Servants

2449. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether consultancy service from Ford, Foundation was obtained to improve

training for civil servants;

(b) if so, details of the consultation and advice offered; and

(c) the action taken on them?

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) Yes, Sir. Government has under consideration a plan to send officers of organised services abroad for training for a year or so in indentified priority areas so that on their return they may serve Central/State/National Training Institutions for a period of 3 - 5 years before returning to the main stream. The services of a consultant were utilised for this purpose, funded by the Ford Foundation.

(b) and (c). The consultant was in the country for a period of 3 weeks in May - June 1987 and has suggested a range of institutions abroad for the purpose of training. Further follow up action is being taken.

Revival of Sick Units

2450. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the various measures the Sick Industries Unit Board has taken so far to revive the sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction which became operational with effect from 15th May, 1987 has formulated detailed regulations regarding the conduct of its business. So far 72 cases have been registered by the Board under Section 15 (1) and two cases under Section 15 (2) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act. Action is being taken by the Board regarding these cases according to the procedure laid down in

the concerned Act and the Regulations.

Evaluation of Social Justice given to SC/ST

2451. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have at any time undertaken evaluation of social justice given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in terms of the constitutional provisions;

(b) if so, the agency through which this evaluation work was undertaken;

(c) whether any report was submitted by such agency in this behalf; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) (a) to (d). Under Article 338 of the Constitution, a Special officer (Commissioner for SC/ST) is provided to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for SC/ST in the Constitution, whose office has been further strengthened to ensure the implementation of these safeguards. His Report which is submitted every year is placed before Parliament. Further the Annual Report on the working of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 is also laid before Parliament.

Recommendations of Dr. Gopal Singh Panel on Minorities

2452. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 314 on 25th February 1987 regarding recommendations of Dr. Gopal Singh Panel on minorities and State:

(a) whether Government have since

considered the recommendations contained in the said report;

(b) the main recommendations of the panel;

(c) Government's reaction and decision on the recommendations;

(d) steps taken to implement the recommendations; and

(e) the time by which report will be placed on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (e). The report of the High Power Panel on Minorities is under consideration of the Government. It is not possible to indicate any time-limit in this regard.

Freight Equalisation for Coal and Cotton

2453. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not introducing freight equalisation in respect of coal and cotton as demanded by Eastern States;

(b) the reasons for not lifting freight equalisation on iron and steel as demanded by Eastern States; and

(c) the names of the States to be benefited under (a) and (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The subject of freight equalisation has been studied by a number of Committees, the last one being the National Transport Policy Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B.D. Pandey. The Committee concluded that the beneficial effect in terms of regional dispersal as a result of freight equalisation was more than off-set by increase in real transport costs and freight equalisation