

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (d). According to the information available from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, a special survey has been commissioned in this regard, which will be completed by the end of December, 1986. The details will be available only after the survey is completed. The final decisions will be taken by the State Government after the survey report is studied.

Interim Relief to Pensioners

4550. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal under consideration to pay interim relief to Central Government pensioners pending submission of report by the Fourth Pay Commission, as in the case of serving employees who were granted interim relief twice after the appointment of the Commission ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : No, Sir.

Research on Relationship between Rainfall and Vegetation

4551. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) has any research been conducted to establish a relationship between rainfall and vegetation; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

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) and (b). Considerable research has been done regarding effect of rainfall on vegetation, especially crops of different types. The results of these studies have been gainfully utilised in the development of agriculture in the country.

However, not much research has been done on the effect of vegetation on rainfall. A few studies have indicated that although microclimate appears to change due to deforestation, there is no conclusive evidence that forest cover determines the rainfall in that area. Studies made in other countries also indicate similar views.

[Translation]

Construction of Airstrip by China Near Toklakot in Tibet

4552. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any report to the effect that China is constructing an airstrip near Taklakot in Tibet; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct an airstrip somewhere near this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

Amount Allotted under MNP

4553. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH TUR :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amounts earmarked for implementation of the schemes prepared under the Minimum Needs Programme for the year 1985-86 have not been utilised fully;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it has affected implementation of elementary education, health, drinking water and power schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and