

more frequent dialogues between CSIR and the industry.

(b) Closing-down of projects not showing promise was suggested by the Prime Minister. No proposal is under Government's consideration to close-down on-going laboratories at present.

(c) and (d) The Research Advisory Councils of Laboratories monitor and review the ongoing projects periodically and suggest closing down of projects not showing promise. Many projects have consequently been closed down in the last two years. In addition the mechanisms for monitoring projects at the laboratory and the headquarters levels are being strengthened and larger teams are being deployed on a fewer number of projects. A system of periodical discussion by Director-General, CSIR with the Chairman of Research Advisory Councils and Directors of National Laboratories has been introduced towards this end.

#### Foreign Nationals Issue in Assam

2979. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :

SHRIMADHAV RAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether renewed efforts will be made by Government settle the problem of foreign nationals' in Assam;

(b) if so, what initiatives are being taken by Union Government;

(c) whether Government propose to solve the problem in a time-bound manner; and

(d) the details of the talks, if any, held with representatives of the agitators during the past three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) and (b) Government have made its stand clear that its doors are open for

further talks on the foreigners issue during recent discussions/debates in Parliament and that Government is anxious to find a just and satisfactory solution in consultation with the State Government and all other interests concerned. The Government are making efforts to restore normalcy and to create conditions congenial and conducive to a fruitful dialogue.

(c) The Government is anxious for early solution of the problem.

(d) It has not been possible to resume the talks since the last round held on 4th & 5th January, 1983 which remained inconclusive.

#### Formulation of Seventh Plan

2980. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any advance action regarding the formulation of the Seventh Five Year Plan has been undertaken by the Planning Commission and Government;

(b) if so, whether any objectives and guidelines have been evolved for this purpose;

(c) if so, the nature and brief outlines thereof; and

(d) if not, the likely date by which any advance action in this direction would be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Preliminary discussions have begun in the Planning Commission in regard to the formulation of the Seventh Five Year plan. It is too early for any objectives or guidelines to have been formulated.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Government Employees Seeking Foreign Assignments

2981. SHRI DALBIR SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any specific terms and conditions have been laid down for the officers of the All India Services and/or other Government employees seeking foreign assignments with the UN/FAO/High Commissions/Embassies etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) provisions, if any, to relax such relaxations were resorted to and for what specific reasons, if any, in each case; and

(d) proposals, if any, to relax the 'cooling off' period in respect of All India Services officers hitherto on tenurial postings with the Government of India and/or having already had foreign assignments in the recent past, seeking foreign assignments again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) to (d) Foreign assignments of officers of the All India Service and/or other Government employees with the UN and other International Organisations are regulated by Government orders issued from time to time. A gist of the important provisions of these Orders is given in the attached statement. Postings in the Indian Missions abroad are not treated as foreign assignments.

Officers irrespective of their tenure position at the Centre are eligible to be considered for foreign assignments. Therefore, the "cooling off" period prescribed in respect of All India Services Officers on tenurial postings with the Government of India is not applicable in the case of foreign assignments.

The information sought in parts (c) & (d) of the Question regarding cases involving relaxation of the rules relating to foreign assignments is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

### Statement

*Gist of the important provisions of government regulating deputation of government officers on foreign assignments.*

#### Nomination

Names of suitable officers are recommended to the UN and other international agencies against specific vacancies reported to the government. These demands are processed by the nodal ministries/departments concerned with the particular foreign agency. The selection of officers is made by a Screening Committee constituted for this purpose.

2. Non-sponsored officers for short-term assignments upto six months and others whose services are requisitioned on account of their eminence, known expertise, etc., are also considered for foreign assignments depending upon the merits of each case.

3. Officers are not allowed to apply for UN, etc. jobs in response to advertisements issued by these organisation in newspapers, etc.

#### *Period of foreign assignment and subsequent extension*

4. The total duration of foreign assignments in the career of a government officer, whether in one or more spells/assignments, is five years. Extensions upto this limit may be allowed by the administrative ministries/departments with the approval of the cadre authorities concerned. For extensions beyond five years approval of the Central Establishment Board/Senior Selection Board/Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, as is considered necessary in each individual case, is necessary.

#### *Assignments under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs and other aid programmes*

5. The period of deputation spent on ITEC and other aid programmes is not

counted towards the 5 year ceiling fixed for foreign assignments, as the pay, etc., of the deputationists is borne by the Government of India.

“Cooling off” period.

6. No “cooling off” period is required between two foreign assignments where the previous foreign assignment was for a period of one year or less, or between ITEC and other aid programmes. In other cases, the “cooling off” period prescribed is as under :—

- (i) Between two foreign assignments where the previous assignment was for a period exceeding one year. ...3 years
- (ii) Between an ITEC etc. assignment & a foreign assignment and vice versa. ...2 years

#### Buyers of Kudremukh Iron Ore

2982. Dr. A.U. AZMI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Iranian Government have backed out from executing agreement with India in the matter of iron ore from Kudremukh;

(b) if so, reasons thereof and what steps have been taken by Government to realise the damages;

(c) whether large number of Kudremukh officials visited countries abroad to find buyers of the iron ore refused to be bought by the Iranian Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome of their visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) and (b) Iran had indicated inability to lift the contracted quantities of concentrate from Kudremukh Iron Ore Company

Limited, mainly due to the delay in the construction of their steel plant arising from the developments in that country. Negotiations are being held with Iran to resolve various issues, including the lifting of the concentrate.

(c) and (d) Due to the uncertainties created by the nonlifting of concentrate by Iran, the company is simultaneously making efforts to locate other buyers. For this purpose, some officers of the Company have visited a few countries. As a result, the Company has succeeded in few concentrate to Romania and Czechoslovakia. The company has also received Letters of Intent for the purchase of Kudremukh concentrate by Bahrain and the Philippines. Some other countries have also shown interest in the purchase of Kudremukh concentrate. Negotiations with them are continuing.

#### Suspension of Government Employees

2983. DR. A.U. AZMI :

SHRI KUMBHA RAM  
ARYA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government employees suspended on the ground that disciplinary proceedings are being instituted against them are not served charge-sheets for about a year and are kept in complete darkness, subsistence allowances have not been reviewed after the expiry of three months from the date of suspension, and the continued suspension not reviewed and decision communicated to the concerned employees;

(b) if so, what are the rules on the subject; and

(c) whether instructions will be reiterated and copies of the same will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Suspension of Government employees, serving of charge-sheets, payment of subsistence allowance etc. are