

Tribal Welfare Department for any State and appoint a Minister incharge of this Department under the first provision of Article 164 of the constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have changed the name of the Tribal Welfare Department to Welfare Department on the lines of Ministry of Welfare; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to restore the names of Tribal Welfare Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The provisions of Article 164 of the Constitution of India pertain to the States and not to the Union of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Autonomous State Movement of Hill

5872. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Memorandum of Understanding the Government agreed upon to transfer the department of DRDA, Food and Civil Supplies, Excise and Weights and Measures etc. from State Government to the Autonomous Hill Councils;

(b) whether Assam Government could not transfer these departments because of lack of clearance from the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons for not giving clearance to State Government to transfer the said departments to the Autonomous Councils of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills;

(d) the steps proposed by the Government for early transfer of these departments; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for implementation of the said Memorandum of Understanding?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Autonomous Hill Councils have been entrusted 30 subjects which include DRDA, Food and Civil Supplies, Excise and Weights and

Measures by the Government of Assam vide Notifications No. HAD/57/95/63-64 dated 29th June, 1995 and No. HAD/95/268-269 dated 25th September, 1996. In so far as DRDA is concerned, the Central Government had communicated the clearance to the Assam Government and it is expected that formal order by the State Government to transfer DRDA to the control of the respective Autonomous Councils would be issued soon. In respect of other departments, where amendments to Central Acts/Rules are required, it was decided in the meeting held on 1.7.98 at Guwahati that the Autonomous Councils will send proposals to the Central Government through State Government for relevant amendments to the Central Acts/Rules.

(e) An amendment was made to the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India to implement the Memorandum of Understanding. The progress of implementation of Memorandum of Understanding had been reviewed from time to time by the Central Government. Recently, Union Government had convened a meeting on 18.6.98 at New Delhi with the officials of Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission, officials of Government of Assam, and representatives of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Autonomous Councils. In this regard another meeting was convened at Guwahati on 1.7.98 with the officials of Government of Assam and representatives of Autonomous Councils to resolve the pending issues.

Inter-State Council

5873. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of recommendations of Sarkaria Commission adopted by the Inter-State Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government is considering to implement the decisions of the Inter-State Council?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Out of 247 recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission in its Report, the Inter-State Council has taken a view in respect of 91 recommendations as per details given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Inter-State Council is a recommendatory body. Its decisions have been communicated to the concerned Ministries/Departments for implementation.