

(b) Details of persons who have been awarded Dr. Ambedkar Overseas Fellowships during the last three years are as follows:

| S.No. | Year | Name of the Awardee | Subject |
|-------|---------|--|-----------|
| I. | 1995-96 | Three foreign fellowship were awarded in these two years, two out of which were for Ph. D in Sociology | |
| II. | 1996-97 | and one in International Relations. | |
| III. | 1997-98 | Nil | Relations |

(c) The Governing Body of Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has discontinued the Scheme for Dr. Ambedkar Overseas Fellowship w.e.f. 14.9.1997 and decided to introduce revised Schemes of Dr. Ambedkar National Fellowship and Dr. Ambedkar Overseas Fellowship which are being finalised for introduction.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Retirement Age

1600. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Government has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for raising the retirement age of its employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir. The retirement age of employees working under the Govt. of NCT of Delhi has already been increased from 58 years to 60 years at par with the Central Government employees.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Exotic Weed Seeds

1601. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY:
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imported wheat from Australia in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and foreign exchange incurred thereon;

(c) whether the Australian Wheat imported by BTC contain exotic weeds and major problem for Karnataka as appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated October 13, 1998;

(d) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(f) whether the matter has been taken up with the Australian Wheat Board;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to dispose of the Australian Wheat?