

### Study Regarding Reduction of Rain Potentials

5981. SHRIN. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been made by Government to ascertain the causes of the reduction of rain potential in some parts of the country including Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Meteorological studies of India's long period rainfall records show that there is no decreasing or increasing trend in the annual rainfall in different regions of the country, including the Knyakumari district of Tamil Nadu. However, there are year to year variations in the rainfall, in various parts of the country (including the Kanyakumari district). This variation is within the natural variability of climate in each meteorological subdivision.

Some scientists have also tried to relate the annual variations in India's rainfall to certain astronomical phenomena like sun-spot cycle and lunar cycle. However, no strong correlation has been established so far between the rainfall pattern and these astronomical phenomena.

[Translation]

### Central and State Social Welfare Boards

5982. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of composition, term and functions of the Central Social Welfare Board; and

(b) the criteria adopted while constituting Central Social Welfare Board and State Social Welfare Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) In accordance with the Articles of Association of the Central Social Welfare Board, the composition of its General Body is as under:

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(i) All Chairpersons of States/ Union Territories Boards	31 (at present 30 State Boards)
(ii) 5 professionals, one each from Law, Medicine, Nutrition, Social Work Education and Social Development	05
(iii) 3 eminent persons with extensive experience in Social Work	03