

(a) the details of the functions organised by the West Zone Cultural Centre Udaipur and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years:

(b) the details of the items purchased by this centre for Apna Utsav organised in Delhi and whether the items purchased by them are still with the centre:

(c) whether the plan of the 'Shilpgram' built up under this Centre had the approval of the Steering Committee of the Centre; and

(d) whether the 'Shilpgram' has any utility?

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) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Timber Processing Complex at Calicut

5928. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to examine the possibility of establishing a timber processing complex at Calicut; and

(b) whether the Government give priority to this and explore the possibilities in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Kerala Government has informed

that there is no proposal to start Timber processing complex at Calicut since there is not enough quantity of raw material available.

[*Translation*]

Equal Rank Equal Pension

5989. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have received representations from the retired Central Government employees demanding that pension be paid to the retired personnel on the basis of 'equal rank equal pension'; and

(b) if so, the details therefore and the action taken thereon?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The demand of the retired Central Government employees, which include ex-servicemen, is to pay pension to the past retirees at the same rates as admissible to the present day employees on their retirement from equivalent ranks/grades. The Government have appointed a Committee to examine the demand of the ex-Servicemen in all its aspects, including its implications.

[*English*]

Protection Belur and Halebid Temples

5991. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTAI AH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Belur and Halebid temples have no protection from sun and rains; and

(b) the steps taken or contemplated to

protect these rare monuments from the bad effects of heat and rains?

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) and (b). No monument can be totally protected from or insulated against the vagaries of nature such as sun and rain. The temples at Belur and Halebid which are protected by the Central Government, are being preserved through chemical treatment in accordance with the archaeological norms and requirements with a view to mitigate the adverse effects of nature including rain and sun.

[Translation]

Construction of Building for Kendriya Vidyalaya at Maithan, Bihar

5992. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Damodar Valley Corporation had taken a decision to construct a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Maithan and had also selected land for the purpose;

(b) if so, whether construction work has started;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be started?

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) to (d). The information is being collected from the concerned authorities and will be

laid on the table of the House.

Repairing or Defence Air Station, Gopalganj

5993. SHRI RAJ MANGAL MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence Air Station in Gopalganj district of Bihar is in a very bad condition;

(b) whether big aircraft take-off and land there even now;

(c) whether repair work on the said air stations has not been carried out for a long time; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to carry out the repair work at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) There is no Defence Air Station in district Gopalganj (Bihar). An abandoned airfield of 2nd World War vintage exists at Hatwa in district Gopalganj, which has been in disuse since long.

(b) No, sir.

(c) No repairs have been carried out.

(d) For the present, there is no proposal to carry out any repair work on the airfield.

Pollution of Ganga in Kanpur

5994. SHRI KESHARI LAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any test regarding pollution of Ganga in Kanpur;

(b) if so, the extent of pollution thereof