

(a) whether Sikkim has limited facilities for schools, technical/technological institutes and higher education; and

(b) whether Government propose to set-up a university in Sikkim with new concept, aims and objects to look after all the educational needs of the region on innovative and pragmatic basis under the new Education Policy to speed up development of this State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) According to information available, there are 10 Higher Secondary Schools in Sikkim with an enrolment of about 1,000 students. There is one Government College with an enrolment of 350 students and a Law College with an enrolment of 137 students. There are no Technical/Technological institutions in the State.

(b) Presently there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a separate university in Sikkim.

Declaration of national highways in Andhra Pradesh

2635. SHKI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in his memorandum submitted to the Prime Minister on 30 October, 1985 had represented that no road had been taken under the National Highways System since 1946 in Andhra Pradesh and whether according to a formula devised by the Indian Roads Congress, Andhra Pradesh should have 5540 kilometre of National Highways as against the existing 2350 kilometres;

(b) whether the Chief Minister in his memorandum proposed 10 State roads to be given the National Highways status; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Owing to severe resources constraint, it is not possible at present to declare any new road as a National Highway in any State, including Andhra Pradesh.

Sanskrit University at Ramtek (Maharashtra)

2636. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish a Sanskrit University at Ramtek in Maharashtra State;

(b) whether Government have received any representation in this regard; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Central Government.

(b) and (c) Suggestions are received from time to time for establishment of a Sanskrit University at Ramtek in Maharashtra. These suggestions are forwarded to the Government of Maharashtra for appropriate action.

[Translation]

Construction of a bridge over Ghagra River at Majhi on U.P., Bihar Border

2637. SHRI JAGANNATH CHAUDHARY :
SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accorded sanction for construction of a bridge over Ghagra at Majhi on the borders of Uttar

Pradesh and Bihar connecting Ballia and Chapra;

(b) if so, when did Government accord sanction and the target fixed for completion of the construction work; and

(c) the ceiling fixed for expenditure to be incurred on the construction of the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Government of India approved a loan assistance of Rs. 4.50 crores for construction of a bridge over river Ghagta near Manjhighat on Ballia-Chapra road on the border of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar States under the Central Aid Programme of loan assistance of Inter-state and economic importance.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh, who are responsible for the execution of the bridge, have submitted a detailed estimate for sanction of the Government of India and the same is at present under process. It may take about 4 years to complete the bridge from the date of award of the work.

(c) The estimated cost of the bridge is Rs. 11.00 crores out of which the Government of India will provide a loan assistance of Rs. 4.50 crores and the balance cost as well as excess, if any, is to be shared equally by the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

[*English*]

Educational institutions in technically professional fields for catering to foreign demand

2638. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great demand for Indian technical personnel such as doctors, engineers etc. in foreign countries;

(b) whether these persons remit substantial amount of foreign exchange;

(c) whether there is unemployment of

these highly technically qualified persons in India; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider opening of private educational institutions in technically professional fields with the exclusive object of catering to foreign demand and reducing unemployment and earning foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) The demand has been fluctuating.

(b) Those who are employed abroad do remit foreign exchange.

(c) The employment of highly technically qualified persons, on the whole, is not inadequate in India.

(d) No, Sir.

Assistance to states for construction of field channels

2639. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTA-NAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the total amount given to various State Governments as Central grant during 1984-85 for achieving the target for construction of field channels;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the State Governments have not been able to utilise even 50 per cent of Central grant given for the purpose;

(c) if so, the names of those States; and

(d) what action Union Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Details are given in Statement given below.

(b) to (d) Central assistance is released on a matching basis to the States and