

**Allotment of Railway land to State  
Government of Assam**

7791. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 80 acres of Railway land in Amingaon near Guwahati has been allotted to the State Government of Assam for the rehabilitation of displaced persons coming from erstwhile East Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI  
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Depriving North Eastern States the  
latest technological assistance**

7792. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North Eastern States have been deprived of the latest technological assistance from Central Water Commission;

(b) whether these States have approached the Union Government for technical assistance from Central Water Commission; and

(c) if so, the decisions taken by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-  
SOURCES (SHRI B SHANKRANAND) :  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Whenever North-Eastern States have approached in this regard the Government of India for technical assistance, the same is extended.

**Measures to check drop-out rate**

7793. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the measures that were taken during the year 1986-87 to arrest the drop-out rate at the Elementary stage; and

(b) the latest position in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). The National Policy on Education, 1986 resolves that highest priority will be given to solving the problem of children dropping out of schools. A large and systematic programme of non-formal education will be launched for school drop-outs and non-attending children.

A large number of research studies have been conducted by various academic bodies which reveal as many as 56 different causes responsible for students dropping out. The main among these causes are :

- (a) Socio-economic factors,
- (b) inadequately provided schools and inefficient teaching in schools,
- (c) perception of the curriculum not being related to local needs,
- (d) indifference of parents towards education of children particularly girls,
- (e) indifference of particular first generation learners leading to non-utilisation of educational facility where available.

The causes leading to dropout being many, a whole range of programmes is needed to have an impact on the situation. Various incentive programmes like free supply of uniforms to girls students, free mid-day-meals, free text books and attendance scholarships are being implemented by the State Governments/UTs Administrations and this Ministry has been persuading the State Governments to increase the coverage to the extent possible. These various measures have been under implementation in 1986-87.

Apart from the new initiatives and strengthening of existing arrangements by the State Governments, as primarily they look