

- (iv) State Governments have been requested to appoint Nodal Officer for better coordination of animal welfare activities of State and other voluntary agencies. 23 States/UT have already appointed nodal officer.
- (v) Encouragement and assistance is being given to Animal Welfare Organisations/Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, through the Animal Welfare Board of India. During 1992-93, 85 training camps were arranged.
- (vi) A Committee has been constituted to make recommendations to the Government for control and supervision of experiments on animals. The members of the committee are visiting institutes and organisations to advise them about the modern method of use and upkeep of animals.

Elementary Education for Children of Minority Community

36. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OW SI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to launch any special elementary education programme for the children of minority community in view their backwardness and socio-economic condition;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government are considering to give incentives to the children of this community so that they may be able to get education?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). During the current financial year, with a view to accelerate the educational development of educationally backward minorities, the Government launched two schemes, namely, scheme of Area Intensive Programme for educationally backward minorities and scheme of Financial Assistance for Modernisation of Madrasa Education.

[*Translation*]

Funds for Earthquake Victims

37. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds collected from inside and foreign countries for the earthquake victims of Maharashtra;
- (b) the details regarding made of expenditure of the said relief fund for the victims;
- (c) whether the fund received upto 31.1.94 has been spent on relief work and if not, the details of balance amount thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken and future schemes proposed for rehabilitation of orphan children and widows of the earthquake victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sadha.