

mandatory/requirement under the Standards of Weights and Measures Act 1976 and the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, made thereunder.

Violation of this requirement invites penal provisions laid down under the Rules with a maximum punishment upto Rs. 5000/- in the first instance.

(b) Defaulters are prosecuted under the said Act and Rules, by the State/UTs enforcement department.

[Translation]

Hindi Books

5014. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is constant decline in the number of readers of Hindi books;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the increasing prices of Hindi books is one of the main reasons;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to take effective measures to check the rising prices of Hindi books and also for promoting Hindi; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir. NBT organised exhibitions in the Hindi speaking states and found that there is a wide readership of Hindi books.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). NBT has been publishing reasonably priced books which include books for children and post-literacy reading material for neo-literates. Books by Sahitya Academy are also moderately priced, as there is an element of subsidy in their production. Financial assistance is also provided by the Government to voluntary organisations for promotion of Hindi. These measures help check the rise in price of Hindi books.

[English]

Community Polytechnics

5015. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have appointed a National Appraisal Committee to appraise the implementation of the scheme of Community Polytechnics;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A National Appraisal Committee has been appointed under the Chairmanship of Shri M.M. Luther, Ex-DG, All India Management Association, to appraise the implementation of the scheme of Community Polytechnics.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Committee is expected to submit its report by the end of December, 1995.

Railway Stations

5016. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the Railway Stations in Vijayawada Division of South Central Railways ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether basic passenger amenities provided at the railways stations in this division are inadequate and sanitary condition on the stations of this Division is also very poor; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to improve upon the same.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Improvements to facilities at stations is a continuous process and works in this regard are taken up wherever so warranted by traffic needs subject to availability of funds and relative priorities of various stations. Accordingly, in 1994-95, works pertaining to improvement/augmentation of facilities have been completed at Anaparti, Annavaram, Guntur, Narasapur, Kakinada Town, Vetapalem, Akividu, Kaikalur, Ongole, Nellore and Rajahmundry railway stations.

Further works have been taken up or are proposed to be taken up at Nellore, Tenali, Kavali, Rajahmundry, Guntur, Niddubrolu, Anakapalle, Tuni, Ongole, Chinna Ganjam, Chirala, Vijayawada, Bhimavaram Town, Nidadavolu, Modukuru, Narsipatnam Road and Gudivada Railway Stations also.

(c) and (d). Deficiencies in respect of basic passenger amenities has recently been eliminated at all stations including those in the Vijayawada Division. Instructions have also been reiterated to the South