

(f) With the inclusion of this Programme in the 20 Point Programme of the Govt. of India a new thrust has been given to improve the implementation of the Programme throughout the country in a phased manner.

#### Working Groups on Major Ports

164. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have appointed five working groups to study the organisational, financial and operational aspects of major ports;

(b) if so, whether the Major Ports Reforms Commission which failed to function will now operate through these working groups ;

(c) whether the Commission was set up on January 7, 1984 and was asked to study the entire gamut of major ports operation and the feasibility of setting up a National Port Authority on the lines of the Railway Board ;

(d) whether the Commission failed to take off even after completion of one year ; and

(e) if so, to what extent these working groups would be able to fulfil the task set forth for the Commission ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT : (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). The Major Ports Reforms Committee in its meeting on 17th December, 1984, having regard to its wide ranging and comprehensive terms of reference; identified five activity areas requiring indepth study. In the interest of expeditious completion of its task it was decided by the Committee to :—

(i) set up one Working Group for each activity area to make an indepth study of it ;

(ii) meet once a month to review the progress of the Working Groups,

hold discussions with representatives of voluntary bodies, State Governments and specialised institutions in the port and shipping industries and also pose specific issues to the concerned Working Groups.

It may be mentioned that the setting up of Working Groups by such Committees is a fairly normal methodology.

(c) and (d). Even though the Committee, after sanction of staff etc., de-facto entered upon the task only towards the end of last year, it has since then held three meetings so far and the fourth meeting is slated for 25th March, 1985. The Working Groups have in all held 7 meetings. Besides this they have met the port users, shipowners, shipping agents, clearing and forwarding agents and principal importers and exporters at Bombay

The Committee will also deliberate upon the question of setting up of a centralised Port Authority.

(e) As explained, the Working Groups and the main Committee are working simultaneously so that the Committee could complete its task expeditiously. The question of Working Groups functioning as a substitute of the main Committee in the circumstances does not arise.

#### U.G.C. Suggestion on Syllabus for Inclusion of Marxism in Political Science Courses

165. SHRI R.P. DAS :  
SHRI SAIFUDDIN  
CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI SUDHIR ROY :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the University Grants Commission suggested introduction of liberalism and Marxism in the courses of political science at all levels in the Universities ;

(b) if so, whether the said suggestion has been implemented ; and

(c) if not, whether Government plans to introduce uniform syllabus on these subjects in various Universities ?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K.C. PANT) :** (a) The University Grants Commission has constituted panels of experts in various subjects of study and research to advise the Commission on matters relating to standards of teaching and research. These panels periodically review the syllabi and courses of study with a view to making them upto-date. The recommendations made by the panels are brought to the notice of the universities for reviewing the syllabi of the relevant courses.

A Report on the revision of syllabi for political science courses prepared on behalf of the UGC panel on Political Science in 1978-79 had mentioned incorporation of elements of liberalism and marxism in the course in political science.

(b) 12 Universities have generally accepted the recommendations contained in the report.

(c) The recommendations made by the Panels are made available to the universities for their guidance. The Government have no proposal to introduce uniform syllabi for various courses offered by the Universities.

#### **New cure for Dehydration**

166. **SHRI S.M. GURADDI :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated loss of children's life in India, especially in rural areas, due to dehydration ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a new cure or method has been developed to prevent dehydration ;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to extend awareness and availability of the cure or method in rural areas ; and

(d) what was the coverage of the population in this respect during 1983-84 and

what is the target for 1984-85 and 1985-86 ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :** (a) Total number of persons (including children) died in the country from diarrhoeal during the last 3 years are as under :—

1982	—	16844
1983	—	8445
1984	—	6298

(b) Oral dehydration therapy has been found to be extremely effective in dealing with dehydration.

(c) (i) Every village health guide looking after 1000 population in the rural areas, is being supplied with 60 packets of Oral Rehydration Salt every year.

(ii) Health education material are being published in different languages for education of health workers and members of the community for prevention of diarrhoea through the use of Oral rehydration solution.

(iii) Training Courses are being conducted for the doctors, para-medical workers and village health guides in the promotion of use of ORS.

(d) Based on the coverage of 1000 population by one village health guide, the total coverage of population is as follows :—

<i>year</i>	<i>No. of VHG*</i>	<i>No. of population covered</i>
1983-84	3.49 lacs	349 million
1984-85	4.50 lacs	450 ,,
1985 86	4.80 lacs	480 ,,

#### **Power Shortage Problem**

167 **SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSAIN :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(\*Village Health Guide)