

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) :** (a) 81 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned for establishment during the year 1986-87, out of which 71 Vidyalayas have started functioning as on 31st January, 1987.

(b) Rs. 25 crores in 1986-87.

(c) Rs. 7,64,33,368.25 as on 28th February, 1987. The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti is yet to take up the construction of its own buildings at each Vidyalaya premises.

[*Translation*]

**Development and Protection of  
Chechar, Bihar**

**1385. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :** will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the development and protection of Chechar, a forgotten place of pilgrimage in district Vaishali (Bihar) and an oldest place of archaeological importance of Ganga valley civilization;

(b) if so, the amount spent after 1980 till now on the development of this place of pilgrimage and the details of other steps taken in this regard ;

(c) whether gold and relics and idols of various gods and goddesses made of various precious metals have been found there and if so, whether excavation of this place will be undertaken ; and

(b) if so, by what time, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) :** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. She question of protection of the ancient site at Chechar and its adjoining

villages under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) The excavations undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India at the ancient site of Chechar-Kutubpur yielded a cultural sequence from Neolithic times to Kushana period based on antiquities and pottery found at the site as reported in *Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1977-78* (pp.17-18). As the cultural sequence of the site has been established, no further excavations are considered necessary at present.

[*English*]

**News Item Captioned "100 Million  
May Die of Aids by Year 2000"**

**1386. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :  
DR. G.S. RAJHANS :**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn news-item captioned "100 million may die of AIDS by year 2000" as reported in the Indian Express dated 21 January, 1987 ;

(b) whether according to a study conducted by the World Health Organisation, it has been found that the victims of AIDS disease are mounting day by day; and

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by Government in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) :** (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The following steps are being taken:

(1) A cell has been established in the Dte. General of Health Services to coordinate AIDS Control activity in the country.

(2) 27 surveillance centres have been established in the country to screen high risk group. In addition, 4 referral centres where higher level diagnostic facilities for AIDS are available, have been set up.