

National Authority on Adult Education

850. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a National Authority on adult education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and objectives of the proposed National Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The Government have formulated a comprehensive programme in the field of adult education known as "National Literacy Mission (NLM)". An effective management structure at different levels has been provided in NLM. Its details are under examination.

Irrigation Potential Target

851. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the additional irrigation potential created by the Government during the first two years of the Seventh Plan;

(b) the land which is likely to be irrigated under the major and medium irrigation schemes as well as under minor schemes; and

(c) whether the targets fixed for irrigation during the period have been achieved and the number of schemes which have been completed so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B SHANKARANAND): (a) The additional irrigation potential created (anticipated) during the first two years of the Seventh Plan is about 4.41 million ha.

(b) The total area likely to be irrigated (anticipated utilisation of the potential created) at the end of the second year of the Seventh Plan is about 64.17 million ha. (gross area).

(c) The anticipated achievement in the first two years of the Plan is about 4.41 m. ha. against a target of 4.74 m. ha. The

achievement from major and medium projects has been mostly by the partial completion of ongoing projects. Information regarding Minor irrigation is not maintained at the Centre.

Research and Development Centre of SAIL

852. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Research and Development Centre of the Steel Authority of India has embarked on an ambitious orientation programme;

(b) whether SAIL has entered into an agreement with a US Science organisation for the purpose;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof;

(d) whether SAIL has also entered into some pacts with other countries like Japan, USSR and a Swiss based firm to bring about improvements in its material produced at various steel plants; and

(e) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M L FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) R & D Centre, SAIL and Academic Institutes in USA have agreed to undertake collaborative research programmes in areas of mutual interest under the "Indo-US Cooperative Research Programme on Iron & Steel Technology" through National Science Foundation, USA. Two broad programmes are under consideration. One relates to "process metallurgy area" and the other programme relates to "new product area"

(d) and (e) SAIL has entered into collaboration agreements with V/o TIAJPRO-MEXPORT, USSR and NKK, Japan to bring about improvements through modernisation and technological upgradation in SAIL steel plants. SAIL has not entered into any agreement with any Swiss based firm. The agreement with USSR is designed to avail of consultancy in R&D activities and training of the R&D cadre in

industrial research. The collaboration agreement with NKK, Japan has been entered into for obtaining technological consultancy towards improvement in the state-of-art technology and the modernisation of RSP, DSP and IISCO plants

Central Contribution to State Road Transport Undertakings

853. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government's capital contribution to State Road Transport Undertakings at present is 50 per cent of that of the State Government;

(b) whether Union Government now propose to make such contribution only to undertakings making a profit;

(c) whether any suggestion has been made, especially at the last meeting of the Association of State Transport Undertakings that Union Government should accept improvement in the working of undertakings as the criterion for making capital contribution; and

(d) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It is proposed to continue the existing scheme of Central Government's Capital Contribution to such State Road Transport Corporations as are run on sound commercial lines to make adequate profit. The Capital Contribution will also be given on selective basis in the interest of transport needs of backward or border areas. The implementation of this decision was considered in a meeting of Chief Executives of State Transport Undertakings organised during March, 1987 under the aegis of Association of State Road Transport Undertakings. A number of suggestions were made at this meeting including

the one about improvement in performance being adopted as the criteria for making this Capital Contribution. As for the detailed guidelines in this regard, no final decision has been taken.

U.G.C. Recognition to Gandhiji University, Kerala

854. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in giving recognition to Gandhiji University in Kerala; and

(b) the criteria adopted by University Grants Commission for giving recognition to a University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). There is no provision under the University Grants Commission Act for recognition of any University established under a State Act. However, according to Section 12B of the UGC Act, a new State University has to be declared fit by the UGC for any financial assistance from Central sources. The Gandhiji University has not been declared fit by the UGC for financial assistance.

The Central Government have notified rules under Section 12B of the UGC Act for declaring new universities fit for financial assistance. The main conditions stipulated in these rules are:

(i) in the law under which the university is established, due weight has been given to the recommendations made by the Educational Commission (1964-66), and the Committee on the Governance of Universities;

(ii) every teaching department has a minimum staff of one Professor, two Readers and an adequate number of lecturers;