

vice, however, is affected adversely by frequent and prolonged power failures.

(b) No Sir. The telephone exchanges themselves in the city and other towns in the Ghazipur district do not remain out of order for long periods. However, the telephone service at Zangipur (25 lines SAX) is seriously affected because of power failures continuing for long durations.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Stand-by power supply arrangements such as engine alternators, increased battery capacities is being made. Rehabilitation of DPs in the Ghazipur exchange is also being completed.

Bi-centenary of Asiatic Society

809. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Asiatic society, Calcutta, has requested the Government of India for grant to celebrate its Bi-centenary in 1984;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government of India have not responded to that request favourably;

(c) if so, the reason therefor; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that Governments of U.K. and France have volunteered to help the institution to celebrate its Bi-centenary?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) No specific proposal has been received from the Asiatic Society, Calcutta for any grant to celebrate its bicentenary in 1984;

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) This Ministry has no information in the matter.

Technical Educational facilities in lakshadweep

810. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the non-availability of technical educational facilities in Lakshadweep, Government are proposing to give such facilities to the Lakshadweep boys in this regard at various places in the country;

(b) if so, what kind of facilities are being considered by the Union Government;

(c) what are the facilities and concessions that are being provided at present; and

(d) how many boys are being absorbed every year in the technical institutions in the country from the Union Territory of Lakshadweep?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Technical Education facilities to the students from Lakshadweep are already being provided in different technical institutions in the country.

(c) and (d) The following number of seats at degree and ITI level were reserved for Lakshadweep Administration:—

Year ^a	Degree seats reserved	Seats Utilised
1979-80	5	Nil
1980-81	5	Information is awaited from the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

Seats reserved in ITIs

From 1977 onwards, two candidates have been sent to Extension Education Institute at Nilokheri, Haryana for training in Artisan-cum-Farm Mechanic Course. Students are also being