

(a) whether plans to extend the Central Government Health Scheme to ten more cities has been abandoned because of lack of funds;

(b) if so, whether the proposal for expansion of scheme was for many States;

(c) if so, what were the cities to be covered under the scheme;

(d) the reasons for not implementing the same during the current year; and

(e) whether the Ministry has asked for sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI) : (a) and (e) The proposals to extend the Central Government Health Scheme to the cities of Jabalpur, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Ajmer, Agra, Thiruchirapalli, Dehradun, Bikaner, Amritsar, and Chandigarh has been kept in adevance in view of the current resource; constraints and the need to consolidate the scheme in the cities where it exists at present.

Increasing Railway Accidents

3174. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 40 people, 10 of them women were injured when a suburban electric train going from Beach Station to Tambaram collided with another train which was about to leave Egmore Station for Tambaram in the morning of 12 July;

(b) whether during the months of June and July, 1983 there had been a large number of rail collisions in almost every State;

(c) if so, what were the main reasons for increase in the rail accidents in various parts of the country;

(d) whether again anti-social elements are active who were earlier trying to create disturbances in the Railways; and

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take to deal with the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURI) :

(a) On the morning of 12.7.83 an EMU local train going from Madras Beach to Tambaram collided with another EMU local train standing at Egmore station. In this accident three persons were injured.

(a) and (c) During June and July 83, there were 9 train collisions, on various Zonal Railways, as compared to 10 during the same months last year.

(d) There is no evidence of anti-social elements being responsible for these train collisions.

(e) Does not arise.

Tribal Education at low Key

3175. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total efforts of education since Independence have been rather tardy in tribal areas of our country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) proposals, if any, for substantial steps during the current plan period in Tribal Sub-Plan areas;

(d) whether Government monitors any periodic survey to know the progress, State-wise/Union Territory-wise; and

(e) if not, whether Government propose to lay down a monitoring system and well defined data communication lines for collecting and relaying data/information both in financial and physical terms to assess periodically the extent of such progress ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION & CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE : (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) There has been considerable expansion in the provision of educational facilities in tribal areas,

as in the other areas, in the post-independence era. The progress in this regard has been assessed in the All India Educational Surveys conducted periodically. The Fourth All India Educational Survey reveals that the ST habitations have received as much attention in the matter of schooling facilities as other habitations at the elementary stage. In the matter of enrolment also there is steady progress. According to the analysis of data collected in the annual educational statistics, it is noted that the growth rate of scheduled tribe enrolment is faster than that of other communities. The other related aspects, e.g. incentives, are also being given adequate emphasis.

(c) For universalisation in education and raising enrolment at all levels for school-going children in tribal areas, the following steps are being taken in the current plan period :

- (i) Establishment of Ashram Schools in sparsely populated areas.
- (ii) Opening of primary, middle and higher secondary schools in bigger hamlets and villages.
- (iii) Incentives like free uniform, free books, mid-day meals etc., pre-matric scholarships at school stage and post-matric scholarship at higher education level are being provided increasingly.
- (iv) Girls education is being given higher priority.
- (v) Imparting of Primary education in the tribal languages is receiving special attention.

(d) and (e) As already indicated the annual educational statistical returns supplemented by the periodical All India Educational Survey provide adequate data for monitoring the progress State-wise/Union Territory-wise. In the plan implementation process, the programmes such as elementary/secondary/adult education are taken for monitoring, with special reference to SC/ST. Moreover under the New Twenty Point Programme special emphasis is given to monitoring of the programmes of universalisation of elementary education and adult education.

The Ministry has recently set up a cell for undertaking monitoring of development programmes in tribal areas and for scheduled castes.

Non-formal education programme

3176. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which non-formal education programme, organised by the Education Ministry, during the current Plan period have covered the enrolment of members of Schedule Tribes in Tribal sub-Plan area State-wise/Union Territory-wise,

(a) whether the progress so far achieved is adequate if not, the special steps proposed, if any, to step it up during the remaining Sixth Plan period :

(c) whether Government propose to include under such programme the instructions as to how to deal with problems connected with land, credit, currency, weights and measures, hygiene, local geography, local administration, lower Government functionaries, liquor vendor, etc. if so, time frame proposed therefor ; and

(d) whether Government propose to undertake periodical evaluation of such programmes to know the progress both in physical and financial terms ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) to (d) The Centrally sponsored project of non-formal education for elementary age-group children is confined to the nine educationally backward States only, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Details of enrolment of Scheduled Tribes children separately under this project are not available. However these State Governments have been advised to ensure at least 20% coverage for STs under this project.

Under the non-formal education project, children who cannot join formal schools or who have to drop-out because of socio-economic reasons, are offered elementary education of the same standard in a graded and condensed form.