

Commission have been released on December 7, 1998. The regulations have been circulated to Central Power entities, State Governments, State Electricity Boards, Consumer Groups, Environmental NGOs, Academic and Research Institutions. Comments have also been invited from the general public through the issue of advertisement in leading national newspapers. The Grid Code, which will also include grant of transmission license, is currently under discussion with the concerned utilities and is expected to be available shortly.

(b) The Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 does not lay down any time frame for formulation of regulations by the CERC. However, the CERC has formulated its draft regulations within four months of its establishment. Hence, there has been no delay in formulating these regulations.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Accordinging Status of Central University

2347. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not according the status of fullfledged Agriculture University to one of oldest agriculture colleges, Sabour Agriculture College, Bhagalpur in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to make the said agriculture college a Central University and a research 1 centre;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Agriculture being a State subject, establishment of Agricultural College/University falls generally within the purview of State Government. ICAR provides support to strengthen agricultural education programmes in the established universities. Sabour Agricultural College is the main constituent college of Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur.

(b) to (d) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government. As stated above, the Sabour Agricultural College is already the main constituent College of the University and is fully supported by ICAR in respect of strengthening educational programmes. It is the responsibility of the State to consider setting up of Agricultural University based on manpower planning and requirements.

[English]

Restoration of B.Ed. Course

2348. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether B.Ed. course at Regional Institute of Education, Mysore, has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reintroduce it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the NCERT, an Abbreviated Review of the NCERT conducted during 1993-94, recommended that Regional Colleges of Education should be converted into Regional Centres of NCERT and the present pre-service Courses be phased out.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to restart the 4 - year BA. Ed. Course due to academic and financial constraints.

Closure of a Faculty in IIT, Kanpur

2349. SHRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the faculty of Nuclear Chemistry specialisation in IIT, Kanpur has been closed down;

(b) if so, the date of its closure and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to restart this faculty;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total cost of the instruments for the nuclear/cosmo chemistry laboratories and the manner in which these were utilised after the closure?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) The programme in Nuclear Chemistry/Cosmo Chemistry was initiated in the Department of Chemistry at IIT, Kanpur in the early 60s, with two faculty members. By 1993, both faculty members retired and attracting Ph.D. students became difficult. Those already trained were finding it difficult to get position either in industries or in academia. There is no proposal to restart this specialisation. Most of the equipments acquired have become obsolete and usable equipments are being used in the area of solid state chemistry and related research.

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project

2350. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tariff for the power generation from the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;