

(c) whether Government proposes to cover the open drains and nullahs in these areas to relieve the residents from this meance; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. There is no stagnant water in the open drains and nullahs.

(c) and (d). Surface drains and nullahs also carry rain water and therefore, there is no proposal to cover all of them. However, there is a proposal to cover some of the nullahs during the current year.

Education for Women in Rural and Adivasi Areas

6069. SHRIGUMAN MALLODHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any new plan for the education of women in the rural and adivasi areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of directives issued to State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON) (a) to (c). Keeping in view the policy for removal of disparities in access to educational opportunities suffered by women, several strategies have been initiated recently to promote women's education throughout the country, with emphasis on women in rural and tribal areas. Some of these are as under.

(i) **Mahila Samakhya:** The basic thrust of this programme is to create a mechanism whereby women are given an opportunity to plan and monitor their own education and reach out to a new body of knowledge. It aims at involving women in the process of educational planing at the village level and providing education inputs like non-formal education centres, training of village school teachers and production of educational material. This project has been launched in 10 districts, 3 each of Gujarat and Karnataka and 4 of Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) **School Education:** In the school education, measures taken for promoting education of the girls include recruitment of more women teachers for primary schools, incentive schemes like distribution of free textbooks and uniforms, free education to girls upto Class VIII in all government, local body and aided schools, and upto Class X in most of the States/Union Territories.

(iii) **Non-Formal Education:** Ninety per cent assistance is released for running of Non-Formal Education Centres for girls in the 10 educationally backward states.

(iv) **Adult Education:** Specific steps taken to enlarge coverage of women in adult education programme include:-

- mobilisation of women learners in large number for ensuring enrolment of at least 50% women in adult education centres;

- appointment of large number of women adult education functionaries such as Instructors and Preraks even by relaxing the minimum qualifications;

- involvement of a large number of voluntary agencies, especially those working for women;

- more attention by Shramik Vidyapeeths to women workers;

- special orientation and training of women Instructors as effective agents for promoting women's equality;

- special orientation and training of women Instructors as effective agents for promoting women's equality;

- provision of opportunities for retention of literacy skills and application of this learning for improving their living conditions;

- involvement of Central and State Social Welfare Boards with adult education programmes; and

- production of films on female literacy and empowerment, and their telecast through Door-darshan.

The State Governments have been advised to take action accordingly.

Development Programme for Women in Eighth Plan

6070. SHRI ERA ANBARASU:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether collection and analysis of information of relevant data on the development programme for women is promised in the Eighth Five Year Plan document; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Collection and analysis of information and data is a continuous process. The data are collected periodically from various secondary sources and field studies conducted by different organisations in the country. Details regarding the collection of data on development programme for women and their analysis during the Eighth five Year Plan are yet to be finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

Tree Plantation in Eighth Plan

6071. SHRI ERA ANBARASU:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any programme for tree plantation in Eighth Five Year Plan:

(b) if so, details thereof and the expenditure likely to be involved; and

(c) the target that was fixed for Seventh Five Year Plan and achievement thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The targets, outlays and programme details for the Eighth Five Year Plan have not been finalised. However, the tar-