

**PROF. M.G.K. MENON:** I can assure the hon. Member through you Sir that the basic decision is not to open any new Navodaya Vidyalaya until the review is completed. But I would also like to say that the existing Navodaya Vidyalayas will be given support to make sure that they are established properly, in terms of accommodation the right number of teachers and so on.

### Research Articles on Electronics and Computer Technology

\*372. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:  
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of research articles on electronics and computer technology published in India every month;

(b) whether there is a need for such articles originally written in Hindi being published in Hindi and to get some translated in Hindi so that research vistas in India may be widened for larger openings;

(c) whether Government propose to widen the scope of such research work by starting a journal on electronics and computer science research in Hindi; if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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 (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) Technical and research articles on electronics and computer technology are

published in several journals and magazines in India. It is estimated that the average number of such articles published every month will be around sixty.

(b) to (d). Publications of research articles in Hindi or in the form of their translation into Hindi will help to widen the research base. Steps have been taken by the Department of Electronics to bring out information in Hindi relating to developments taking place in the country in this area. The Department of Electronics has been publishing from time to time scientific and technical articles in Hindi.

[Translation]

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government had, last week, given an assurance in this House that an elaborate scheme for development of technology in respect of Sanskrit and other Indian languages would be devised in the Eighth Five Year Plan. I would like to know whether the Government, is going to launch a research journal under this scheme which would have a blend of articles on electronics and computer technology? My question is simple. Is the Government going to launch any research-journal?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: You know that points of order can not be raised during the question hour. You may ask your question and I shall ask him to reply.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Why is the Prime Minister absent? Is it not contempt of the House? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us listen to the reply of the question. You please take your seat. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI A CHARLES: Rose..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles, please take your seat.

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: I would like to assure the House, through you, Sir, that as far as Government is concerned, the Department of Electronics have the programme which is referred to as Technology Development for Indian Languages. This aims at all actions being promoted to promote the whole area of Indian languages with regard to the field of informatics in general and computers in particular. We now have capabilities in the country for computer input and output based on the various Indian scripts and languages which are important. In addition to that, we have programmes which specifically relate to publication. The hon. Member in the primary question itself and later on in the supplementary had asked for information relating to research journals in Hindi. I would like to point out that it is one thing to publish books meant to educate children, adults or various levels in society to be able to understand the field of informatics and to make use of computers: and to have the capability of computer entry and output based on the Indian scripts and languages. But it is a completely different matter to have a research journal which is viable and can be functional in any individual Indian language. We know of the experience of the large number of research papers published in English, in journals published in the country that they have problems in terms of international standing, and getting widely known. The research journals have difficulties in terms of getting a sufficient number of good papers and so on. Therefore, in my view the first step is to publish books and review articles in Hindi and other Indian Languages to these educated in these languages to essentially understand the field, to be able to make use of the computers for various informatic services, and when the numbers of such individuals build up and there is adequate output of research, we will support research journals also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: The

Government has said in the reply, that about 60 research articles are published every month. I had asked whether the Government planned to publish, a research journal in Indian languages covering electronics and computer technology. I had asked a straight forward question and the reply could be either yes or no. But the hon. Minister has evaded it. There are scholars of the Indian origin throughout the world who wish to publish the research articles on electronics and computer technology in Indian languages. In case the hon. Minister does not have the details, I can give the names of 20 such scholars of the Indian origin who are citizens of England, America and Canada and who wish to publish the research articles on electronics and computer technology in the research journals. The hon. Minister may simply give the reply in yes or no and whether the Government is ready to publish the research articles of these scholars in such journals.

[*English*]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: The direct answer to the question is that if there are adequate number of research articles of quality available for publishing in Hindi, Government would certainly be willing to extend necessary support.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: I am not getting reply. My question is very simple. Will a research journal in Hindi be published?

[*English*]

DR. A.K. PATEL: Sir, in this modern era, it will be very helpful for the students of primary classes if books on the development of technology of computers and electronics are published in the Indian languages. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister whether Government is prepared to form institutions—voluntary institutions—who can translate this technology in our national languages.

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: Sir, the answer is in the affirmative. I would like to point out for information that I have with me various books which have been brought out precisely for that level these are:—

'Computer Se Baat-Cheet',  
'Computer Ek Parichay' and  
'Electroniki Yudh Kala'.

(Interruptions)

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very happy to know from the Minister that.... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: My question has not been answered.

[English]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: Sir, through you I can assure the hon. Members that we are fully with them on the fact that as far as India is concerned, it has many languages. Hindi is an important official language. Informatics is a growing area. Therefore, we must have the capability in the Indian languages themselves. We will fully support programmes relating to this. There is no question about that. The only point is that what we plan to do first is to promote the publication of text books reviews and books to create awareness and based on the growth of this field in Indian languages. We will certainly support research work, and research publication in Hindi and other Indian languages; latter has to be viable. The first step therefore relates to the publication of appropriate books.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: I am very happy to know from the Minister that attention is being given to bring out publications on computer technology and electronics in various national languages. Research is a very wide subject and so, we should have these publications not only in Hindi or English but in other languages also like Tamil, Malayalam and so on. I would request the

Minister to at least get these books translated in various national languages, and bring out these journals either monthly or annually. So, my specific question to the Minister is whether he will consider this request to bring out a journal in Indian languages or not.

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: I would like to assure you that our intention is to carry out this programme in all Indian languages. The very first requirement, as I have said, is computer entry and output in Indian scripts. That is what one has been successful in doing.

The second point is that there is a major programme for translation which will relate to books, and review articles which will bring one up-to-date with technology development. But that is not normally referred to as research journals. A Research journal is one in which an individual can publish his or her own research where these are completely new ideas and like. Such journals require an adequate number of such articles.

[Translation]

DR. SHAIENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main question was whether on an average, more than 60 research articles in Hindi are being received every month on electronics and computer technology. Whether the Government propose to start a journal on electronics and computer science research in Hindi. The hon. Minister has tried to add another dimension to the question by saying that the publications would be brought out in various Indian languages. The hon. Minister probably thinks that Hindi cannot be the language of science, technology, electronics and computers. If that be the case the hon. Minister should have clearly said it, otherwise he should have given an assurance that....

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

DR. SHAIENDRANATH SHRIVAS-

TAVA: May I know from the hon. Minister if the Government propose to start a journal on electronics and computer science research in Hindi and whether this publication would be brought out in other Indian languages later?

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: I would like to assure the House that I personally believe and so does the Department of Electronics and all those who are concerned with this area that we will need to promote technical work, scientific work done through the medium of our own languages. This has now become possible in the computer field on account of the new technological capabilities which allow transliteration and computer inputs and outputs in Indian Scripts and we will later get on to translation. Certainly, the first steps have to be taken in the direction of providing adequate reading material, such as books, review articles and the like in Indian language. Hindi, certainly is a major language for the purpose—as recognised in the Constitution—and will be given its fullest priority in this regard.

#### **Central Assistance for Development of Backward Areas**

\*373. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the backward areas identified in the country, State-wise:

(b) the amount sanctioned in the Sev-

enth Five Year Plan for development of backward areas in Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether Government proposed to grant any special assistance for development of backward areas in Tamil Nadu in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **STATEMENT**

(a) Backward areas have been identified from time to time both by the Centre and the States in varying ways depending upon the choice of selected indicators of backwardness or 'special problem area' criteria used. An illustrative list of such identified areas, State-wise, is enclosed. (Annexure)

(b) Special and backward areas identified in Tamil Nadu's Seventh Five Year Plan are Western Ghats areas and Nilgiris district. During the Seventh Plan period, Central assistance amounting to Rs. 25.96 crores and Rs. 41.53 crores was allocated for the accelerated development of Western Ghats Areas of Tamil Nadu and district of Nilgiris Hills, respectively.

(c) and (d). The Eighth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

#### **ANNEXURE**

##### *List of Industrially Backward Districts in the country*

Andhra Pradesh (14)	— Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Karimnagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mehbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Sri-kakulam and Warangal
Bihar (18)	— Bhagalpur, Champaran, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Palamau, Purnea, Saharsa, Santhal Parganas, Saran, Nalanda, Aurangabad, Nawadah, Gaya, Bhojpur, Begusarai, Monghyr, Khagaria and Madhepur