

report (then Adviser to Education Ministry at the Centre) on primary education and especially to the deplorable state of Primary Education in Calcutta described in the report; and

(d) if so, the steps recommended by the Central Government to implement this report and the action taken by the Government of West Bengal thereon?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Information has been called for from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Report was sent to the Government of West Bengal for necessary action. The latest report received from them indicates that the Corporation has been requested to prepare a scheme for extending primary education facilities in Calcutta under which it should either bear 50 per cent of the expenditure or levy education cess on municipal properties in Calcutta and the State Government would be prepared to extend financial assistance for this scheme. They are pursuing the matter with the Corporation.

While "free primary education" is the ultimate goal of the State Government, for the present they are striving to provide sufficient educational facilities both free and fee-paying for all children.

The State Government has been requested to send a detailed report on the subject.

CORRECTION OF ANSWERS

UPGRADATION OF PADNE BRANCH POST OFFICE IN KERALA

[U.S. Q. No. 1330]

The Minister of State in the Departments of Communications and Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Jaganatha Rao): In the reply given to the Lok Sabha to the Unstarred question No. 1330 on 2-3-1966 by Shri Mohammed Koya it was stated that no representation

had been received to upgrade the Padne Branch post office in Kerala. It is now reported that a representation was received in April, 1964. On examination of the proposal, however, it has been found that upgradation of Padne Branch Office is not justified as financial and work-load standards are not satisfied.

The reply to the question may kindly be read as follows:

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Padne Branch Office could not be upgraded since it did not satisfy the standards laid down for upgradation of Branch Offices.

EXPENDITURE ON OFFSHORE DRILLING IN IRAN

[U.S. Q. No. 3064]

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): In reply to part (c) of the Unstarred Question No. 3064 on 30th March, 1966, regarding expenditure on offshore drilling in Iran, I had stated that the expenditure incurred was "Rs. 6.84 crores upto 31st December, 1965, out of which the share of ONGC is one-third." The correct position is that the whole amount of Rs. 6.84 crores represents ONGC's share of expenditure incurred on oil exploration in Iran's off-shore areas.

12.14 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

POWER FAILURE IN DELHI

Shri Yashpal Singh (Kairana): I call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Power failure in Delhi"

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): The