

performance quality and implement official language policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Department of Science and Technology (DST) has such a scheme. The objective of the scheme is to improve the work efficiency, performance, quality and productivity of the various officials, including scientists, working in DST. As per this scheme, an awardee is given a cash award of Rs. 1500/-. This award is normally given to a maximum of three persons once in two months. There is also a scheme in DST to award Cash prizes to various officials, including Scientists, for doing their official work in Hindi as per the guidelines issued by the Department of Official Languages. Hindi week is celebrated each year and Hindi competitions are organised; prizes are given to the winner.

Software Material for Class Project

4109. SHRI NARSINGHRAO DIKSHIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CLASS Project was started in 1984 and less than 1000 schools have so far been provided computers without software and instructional material in Hindi and if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) the details of packages (in percentage) in Hindi and other Indian languages vis-a-vis packages in English;

(c) the steps taken for providing Authorising System to prepare lessons in Hindi and other Indian Languages;

(d) the strategy for planned development of educational software;

(e) whether there is any scheme to provide IBM Personal Computer instead of SCL UNICORN Microcomputer; and

(f) if so, the details of such scheme, and arrangements made for maintenance of two types of computers in schools and compatibility and exchange of software between these computers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) CLASS Project was started in 1984 and 1694 schools (as on 31.3.90) have been provided Microcomputers with software and instructional material in English. It has not been found feasible to switch over to Indian Language due to limited capability of the SCL Microcomputer to handle Indian languages.

(b) At present, 25 software package are being provided to each of the selected schools CMC Ltd., a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of the Department of Electronics has develop 'Read Only Memories' (ROMs) to cater to script generation of 11 different Indian Languages and also one software package in Hindi called "Prashna Kosh". These ROMs provide capability for transliteration in 11 Indian languages.

(c) The Department of Electronics has drawn up a programme, namely, Technology Development for Indian Languages for implementation during the VIII Plan; this would facilitate preparation of lessons in Hindi and other Indian Languages.

(d) Resource Centre as well as public and private entrepreneurs are being encouraged to undertake development of educational software. This is being coordinated by National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

(e) and (f). Government is considering

IBM PC compatibles as an alternate choice for the CLASS project, as PC compatibles are emerging as de-facto standard in the country. R&D efforts are being put in to enhance capability of these Personal Computer to handle Indian Languages. As the two microcomputer are not compatible, additional efforts would be required for porting the existing software.

At present, only SCL Microcomputers are being used for the CLASS project and these are maintained by CMC Ltd.

Upliftment of Labourers Living Below Poverty Line

4110. SHRI RAVI NARAYAN PANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the percentage of labourers living below poverty line; and
- the steps being taken by the Union Government to improve their economic and social conditions particularly in tribal areas of Orissa and Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) Estimates of percentage of Labourers below poverty line are not available.

(b) Besides development programme included in the Plan, a number of Centrally Sponsored poverty alleviation programme are being implemented to improve the social and economic conditions of those living below the poverty line. These include the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in the rural areas, the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) in the urban areas and the Scheme for the Rehabilitation of Bonded

Labour. There is also the Central sector scheme the Self-Employment Programme for the Urban Poor (SEPUP) in the urban areas. Further, Tribal Sub-Plan is being implemented in 17 States and 2 Union Territories including Orissa and Rajasthan, for the socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes. The strategy of Tribal Sub-Plans is to provide a package of services to individual beneficiary families in such a manner as to meet their specific needs, raise their level of living and to give them income generating schemes to enable them to cross the poverty line and improve the quality of their life.

Adult Education Scheme

4111. SHRI BALVANT MANVAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the states where the adult education scheme are Central Government assistance;
- how many staff members of adult education scheme is covered under Central staff;
- whether there is uniformity of pay scales throughout the country for adult education personnel;
- the steps being taken for bringing about uniformity of pay scale for adult education personnel;
- whether Supreme Court have made any order in this regard with regard to Haryana States's adult education personnel; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (d). Personnel have been provided for different schemes of the adult