

and after visiting the site, they will make the final selection.

**Shri Warrior:** His question was, did the Deputy Minister visit the site and had discussion with the interested parties in Trivandrum? If so, what is the opinion of the Deputy Minister who visited the site?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran):** I did not visit any site. I had discussion with some people including the Education Minister, Kerala. It is not yet finally decided, because certain conveniences have to be obtained before that. But this much we can say, that the Government of Kerala is very anxious to have the rural institute and they are prepared to give their help.

#### Oil in Narmada River Bed

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\*1213. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
          **Shrimati Jamuna Devi:**

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the search for oil in the Narmada river bed being conducted by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has met with encouraging results;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a survey team from Nagpur has also reported favourably on potentialities for iron and manganese ore mining in the area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah):** (a) and (b). Survey for obtaining only geological information in the Narmada basin is being conducted. Fresh water to marine rocks of cretaceous age have been found.

(c) No party has been sent from the Indian Bureau of Mines Nagpur to survey this area.

(d) Does not arise.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what are the indications given in the preliminary report that the Ministry has received and whether those indications are favourable?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis):** For what? If it is for oil, the indications are absolutely unfavourable.

**डा० गोविन्द दास :** जहां पर नर्मदा के पहाड़ों पर यह खोज की गई है, वह किन किन स्थानों पर की गई है और क्या और भी ऐसी कुछ खोज किये जाने की सम्भावना है ?

**श्री हजरतबीस :** इसके बारे में तकसील में पाम नहीं है । माननीय सदस्य मुझे अगर इसके बारे में लिखेंगे तो मैं जरूर उनको इस का जवाब दूंगा ।

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what made the Ministry explore this region when the preliminary report has been so unfavourable?

**Shri Hajarnavis:** The preliminary report is never unfavourable. It is the practice of the Geological Survey to map out every part of the country and make their investigations. If we may not strike oil we may strike something else.

#### Aid for Construction of Primary Schools

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\*1215. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
          **Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have stopped giving of development grant to the State Governments for construction of primary schools;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether representations have been received from the State Governments, particularly from West

Bengal, to reconsider the payment of development grant; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

**The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali):** (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) According to the present procedure, Central grants on the development schemes of any State Government are sanctioned as a lump sum for all schemes and not separately for individual schemes or for individual items of expenditure. Accordingly, the question of stopping grants for the construction of primary school buildings does not arise.

(b) to (d). In view of the position stated under (a) above, these do not arise.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** From the statement I find that funds are not given to State Governments for individual items of expenditure separately. May I know what is the amount given to the State Government for development of primary education.

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran):** There is no separate provision made. The State Governments have submitted their plans and they are given assistance covering the school buildings also. So there is no point in saying that we are giving building grants and now they are stopped.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** I am not asking of stoppage of grants. I want to know what is the amount given to the Government of West Bengal for development of primary education.

**Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran:** No separate figures are available. About primary education, whatever plan they have submitted has been approved. In fact, more funds have been provided to the West Bengal Government because they are step-

ping up the expansion of primary education.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** From the statement, may I take it that any State Government may not spend money for the construction of primary school buildings?

**Shrimati Soundaram Ramchandran:** No. They make their own plans. They have a phased programme for buildings, that so many buildings would be built every year. It is up to them to implement those schemes.

**Shri Koya:** Is the Government aware of the fact that a large number of students are denied admission in schools due to want of accommodation; and, if so, in what way do Government propose to help the States?

**Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran:** Education is a State subject. Their plans are approved. They spend the money. In fact, we are approaching the Planning Commission for increased allotment because every State Government has over-reached its target in primary education. So the same difficulty is there for every State.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur):** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. May I request that the hon. Ministers and their Deputy Ministers may kindly sit at one place so that Members will know that they belong to the same Ministry?

**Mr. Speaker:** If it is a point of order for me to decide where they should sit, it is difficult for me to give any direction. Perhaps, within a few days the hon. Member shall get accustomed to each Minister and then there will be no difficulty.

12.00 hrs.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

##### Fertilizer Projects

**S.N.Q. 13. Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-availability of foreign exchange a