

the expanded project has been estimated at Rs. 25 lakhs including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 11 lakhs.

3. Some foreign firms including one from U.S.A. have shown interest in Hamycin and the terms offered by them are being examined.

Primary Education

*648. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the free primary education scheme has not proved successful in the States;

(b) if so, the States in which the scheme has not been a success; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make it successful?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). The reference appears to be to the principle of making primary education free throughout the country. Barring special schools and some primary schools in urban areas of West Bengal, primary education is free throughout the country.

If the question also covers the principle of universality of primary education, the measure of success achieved differs from State to State and even from areas to areas within a State. It is estimated that as against 191.5 lakh children in primary schools at the beginning of the first Plan, 512.07 lakh children would be studying in primary schools at the end of the IIIrd Plan. This works out roughly to 77.8 per cent of children in the age group 6—11. The States which are less advanced from this point of view are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) In regard to making education free in primary schools of urban areas of West Bengal, the Govern-

ment of India have moved the State Government to take necessary steps. For making education universal, adequate programmes are being formulated and executed within the limitations of available resources, both human and financial. The Government of India are also considering a proposal to give more liberal assistance to less-advanced States to make up the leeway.

Conference of Chief Ministers

*649. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had recently convened a Conference of the Chief Ministers of States; and

(b) if so, the main problems discussed therein?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main problems discussed were measures for introduction of Hindi as Union Official Language from January 26, 1965, enforcement of food-grains control Laws, student indiscipline and communalism.

Declaration of Assets and Liabilities of Ministers

*650. **Shri D. J. Naik:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Ministers of the Central Government and State Governments have disclosed details of their assets and liabilities and of their business interest as well as that of members of their families as per code of conduct issued by the Union Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi):