

The impact of this on the standard of education has not been assessed.

3. In so far as the College teachers are concerned, the Government of India have decided to accept the recommendations of the University Grants Commission for revision of their salary scales and give special assistance to State Governments for implementing these recommendations with effect from 1-4-66. This decision has been generally welcomed by College teachers from different parts of the country.

4. As regards the problem of giving adequate salaries to teachers at all stages of school education, the State Governments are primarily concerned. The Government of India have been impressing upon the State Governments the need to improve the emoluments, service conditions and qualifications of teachers as a step essential to qualitative improvement. They have also advised State Governments to remove disparities in the pay scales of Government and aided school teachers.

5. The Government of India assisted State Governments on 50:50 basis for improvement of salaries of school teachers as a Plan scheme in the State Sector. It is estimated that about Rs. 37 crores have been spent during the Third Plan on these Plan Schemes. As a result of all these efforts, salaries of teachers have been improved although there is room for further improvement in some States. It has now been decided on the recommendations of the Conference of Education Ministers held in June, 1965 that expenditure on improvement of salary scales will be regarded as a Non-Plan item of expenditure.

Synthetic Gas Plant

*1626. **Shri Brij Ram Lal:**
Shri Braj Bihari Mehrotra:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement under which the Power Gas Corporation of the United Kingdom (P.G.C.) will collaborate with the State-owned Fertilizers and Chemicals for the design and engineering of synthetic gas plants and ammonia synthetic plants using I.C.I. process was signed at Eloor (Ernakulam, Kerala) recently; and

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of the agreement are:

- (i) **FACT—PGC** collaboration in the field of design, engineering and constructing synthetic gas and ammonia synthetic plants based on ICI processes,
- (ii) payment of licence fees to ICI and process design and detailed engineering fees to P.G.C. Provision has been made to reduce the process design and engineering fees for subsequent plants of identical capacity,
- (iii) provision of training facilities to **FACT** staff in design and engineering of the above processes in PGC Engineering Departments and elsewhere.

Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Central Government Offices

*1627. **Shri Buta Singh:**
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Khushen Pattanayak:
Shri Solanki:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Gulshan:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Daji: