

[English]

Orders for Wagons

*31. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI SUDARSAN RAY-
CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from West Bengal for placing of orders for wagons building units located in the State;

(b) whether these units are on the verge of collapse for want of wagon orders;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government are contemplating to place such orders to the manufacturing units in West Bengal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Orders for 7600 wagons in terms of four wheelers have already been released on wagon industry which include 5217.5 four wheeler units for industry in West Bengal.

(d) Does not arise.

District Primary Education Programme

*32. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNESCO and other international agencies are assisting the Government in the implementation of District Primary Education Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of districts proposed to be covered under the said programme during the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the programme has been launched in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to implement District Primary Education Programme in the said State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Multilateral and bilateral funding agencies like International Development Association, European Community and Overseas Development Agency of United Kingdom have shown interest in funding the District Primary Education Programme. The European Community has already committed assistance of ECU's 150 million (about Rs. 585.00 crores) for the programme. Negotiations with International Development Association for a credit of US\$ 260 million are in final stages.

42 Districts in 7 States are proposed to be covered under this programme during the current year. These are:

1. Assam

1. Darrang 2. Dhubri 3. Karbi-Anglong
4. Morigaon.

2. Haryana

1. Hissar 2. Jind 3. Kaithal 4. Sirsa.

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| 3. Karnataka | 1. Belgaum 2. Kolar 3. Mandya 4. Raichur. |
| 4. Kerala | 1. Kasergod 2. Wynad 3. Malappuram. |
| 5. Maharashtra | 1. Aurangabad 2. Latur 3. Nanded
4. Osmanabad 5. Parbhani. |
| 6. Madhya Pradesh | 1. Raisen 2. Mandsaur 3. Satna 4. Ratlam
5. Tikamgarh 6. Guna 7. Patna 8. Rajgarh
9. Dhar 10. Rajnandgaon 11. Rewa
12. Betul 13. Sehore 14. Chattarpur
15. Sidhi 16. Shahdol 17. Raigarh
18. Sarguja 19. Bilaspur. |
| 7. Tamil Nadu | 1. Dharampuri 2. South Arcot
3. Tiruvannamalai Sambuvaraya. |

(c) and (d) The coverage and expansion is linked to the availability of external resources. ODA has shown interest in funding a project on the lines of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) in 3 to 5 districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Environment Impact Notification

*33. SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)
BHUWAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have modified the Environment Impact Notification issued early this year;

(b) if so, the details of the modifications made;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the harmful impact of the modifications as regards the original aims of the Notification;

(e) whether the Government have consulted any NGOs dealing with environment regarding the modifications; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The modifications include the following:

- (i) Exclusion of minor minerals;
- (ii) Exclusion of highway projects with a capital cost of less than Rs. 50 crores;
- (iii) Permitting environmental appraisal outside the Expert Committee in case of projects which are not likely to have significant impacts; and
- (iv) Involving public participation where considered necessary.

These modifications were made without changing the spirit and essence of