

ment or from teachers' organisation; and

(c) if so, what is to be the attitude of the Central Government to this proposal?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Bibudhendra Mishra):

(a) In view of the provision contained in article 171(3)(c) of the Constitution, the elementary school teachers are excluded from exercising their franchise in the teachers' constituency in election to the Legislative Council of States.

(b) Government have received from the Ramanathapuram District Teachers' Guild copy of a resolution passed at the half-yearly conference of the Guild held on the 31st March, 1962, requesting that the rules and the Constitution may be amended, *inter alia*, "to enable all elementary school teachers to vote in the election of representatives to the Legislative Council".

(c) Government are of opinion that there is hardly any justification for giving the elementary school teachers the right to vote in elections to the Legislative Council.

Co-operative Housing Societies

1240. Shri Yajnik: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to discontinue the loans and subsidies that were being given to the Co-operative Housing Societies of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Gujarat;

(b) if so, when the loans and subsidies will again be granted to these Societies; and

(c) any other measures that Government propose to take with a view to help these backward classes to build their own homes or cottages?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government. A

statement will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as the information becomes available.

Special Multi-purpose Blocks

1241. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special multi-purpose Blocks started in the country so far;

(b) how many are in the tribal areas; and

(c) the number of Special Multi-purpose Blocks to be started in the remaining years of the Third Five Year Plan?

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

to (c) The information is being collected from the State Governments Union Territories Administrations. A statement will be laid on the Table of the House when the information becomes available.

Study of Hindi in Schools of non-Hindi speaking States

1243. Shri A. T. Sarma: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the non-Hindi speaking States that have introduced Hindi either as a compulsory or as an optional subject in the High School classes; and

(b) the names of the States that have not yet introduced Hindi either as a compulsory or as an optional subject in the High Schools at all?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 37].