

UGC Grants to Journals

3318. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NANI BHAT-
TACHARYA:

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

(a) whether the U. G. C. has prescribed certain norms for providing grants to their journals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether college teachers have expressed their dissatisfaction with the norms;

(d) whether the Government propose to review them;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). University Grants Commission provides grants to eligible colleges for purchase of books and journals in accordance with the prescribed terms and conditions. For under-graduate departments, the college has the freedom to select books and journals to be purchased from the UGC grants. A postgraduate department is eligible for UGC assistance only if it subscribes to at least three standard academic journals. UGC has appointed Expert Committees to determine the standard of academic journals subscribed to by colleges.

(c) to (f). There has been a newspaper report about dissatisfaction of some teachers of Agra University regarding the decision to the Expert Committee not to recognise a

Journal published by Agra University as a standard academic journal. According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission is guided by the views of the Expert Committee while determining suitability of postgraduate department for receiving development assistance.

Koraput-Rayagada Line

3319. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in construction of Koraput-Rayagada railway line;

(b) whether the project is behind schedule resulting in escalation of cost of construction;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the steps being taken for the expeditious completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) 86% upto January '92.

(b) and (c). The project is targeted for completion by June '92 at an estimated cost of Rs. 348.85 crores. There have been slip-pages mainly on account of delay in acquisition and clearance of forest land by State Government, cyclone of unprecedented severity in May '90, heavy rains and prolonged monsoon in 1990-91 and abnormal increase in the about and material rates by Orissa Government.

(d) Full funds and other assistance as required by the Railway for completing this work as per programme have been provided.