(a) what are the recommendations of the University Grants Commission regarding the development of higher education in Tribal and Backward areas:

(b) whether the concerned universities have submitted the developmental proposals to the University Grants Commission during Sixth Plan;

(c) if so, the names of the universities and the colleges situated in Tribal and Backward areas suggested for development thereof;

(d) whether the University Grants Commission has earmarked the funds for Tribal and Backward areas educational development; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) With a view to removing regional imbalances and providing the benefit of higher education to economically and educationally backward communities, the UGC had decided to offer special assistance to colleges catering to the needs of SC/ST students, and those located in tribal areas.

According to the criteria prescribed by the Commission, colleges located in tribal areas and catering to the needs of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students which have at least 5 permanent teachers and a minimum enrolment of 100 students, of whom atleast 5 permanent teachers and a minimum enrolment of 100 students, of whom atleast 35 belong to SC/ST, are eligible for assistance upto a ceiling of Rs. 4.00 lakhs in the Sixth Plan. Colleges with larger enrolments are considered for such special assistance if the number of SC/ST students is not less than 20% of the total enrolment.

In the case of colleges located in backward areas, development assistance is provided if a college has 200 students, 10 permanent teachers, and an overall teacherstudent ratio of 1 : 30.

(b) and (c): The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. (d): The Commission had allocated a provision of Rs. 3.00 crores for assistance to colleges catering to the need of SC/ST students in Sixth Plan.

(e) : Does not arise.

Linking Population Growth with gross National Productivity

5002. SHR1 DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is considered important to stabilise the population at a given level within a time frame;

(b) whether it is considered important to link population growth with the growth of Gross National Productivity;

(c) whether a policy will be framed with these criteria; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) to (d) The demographic goal as already laid down in the National Health Policy is to achieve a Net Reproduction Rate of Unity (NRR : 1) by the year 2000 A.D. leading to stabilisation of population. This target envisages a reduction in Crude Birth Rate (CRR) to 21 per thousand and Crude Death Rate (CDR) to 9 per thousand population by the year 2000 A.D. The requirement of resources for supporting the growing population were kept in view while adopting the national goals mentioned above.

Reported Fear of Epidemic in Varanasi

5008. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the News items appearing in The Hindustan Times dated 3 April, 1985 wherein it has been stated that Epidemic like 1927 may break out in the Varanasi and will spread to the entire country due to Pollution of the Ganga Waters from filth and froth and half burnt bodies, animal carcases thrown into the Holy River; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government of India to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The Government has seen the News item. The news item refers to the cholera apidemic of 1927. Cholera is a classical water borne disease. The cholera organism generally finds its way into the stream water contaminated by the sewage water. These organisms do not survive long in badly polluted water as in clean water. The enteric microorganism, cholera vibrio die out within a couple of hours because of the activity of the bacteria-phage present in the river water of the Ganges and the Jamuna. The pathogenic germ is very sensitive to acids and is killed at a temperature of 56 C. within 15 minuts. With the modern water treatment and cholorination of water supplied to the community the spread of epidemic is unlikely.

Project Report for 205 Minor Irrigation Project sent by A.P.

5004. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent a project report for 205 Minor Irrigation Schemes in that state to the Central Government in 1982 to create an irrigation potential of 37,604 H. A;

(b) whether E.E.C. consultants visited the Andhra State in 1983 and gave their recommendation on "Design" criteria, project cost, operation and maintenance cost etc. and constitution of an appraisal Committee to give final clearance to the schemes;

(c) whether Committee had also submitted its report to Government and is under their examination; (d) whether Union Government had reduced the assistance by Rs. 14 crores for the projects against originally indicated Rs. 50 crores; and

(e) if so, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARA-NAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Although the EEC had earlier indicated an allocation of ECU 15 million (Rs. 15 crores) for the AP Minor Irrigation project, it has since enhanced the allocation to ECU 30 mil. (Rs. 30 crores). The total amount of EEC assistance is related to finance made available through the sale proceeds of imported fertilizers which were arranged under the EEC Cooperation Programme during 1984.

Central Control of all Universities

5005. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the Universities in the country; and

(b) number of Universities controlled by the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) There are at present 125 universities and 15 institutions deemed to be universities in the Gountry.

(b) 118 universities are functioning under Acts of the various State legislatures.

Commission for University Teachers and School Teachers

5006. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had appointed two separate commissions for University Teachers and School Teachers :

(b) the terms of reference of these two commissions ;

(c) whether the two commissions have submitted their reports;

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