

**Navodaya Vidyalaya at Bakhtiyarpur  
(Bihar)**

6113. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision to open Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district of a State;

(b) whether the Collector and the Commissioner of Patna district in Bihar have selected a site in Bakhtiyarpur to open the said Vidyalaya where harijans and backward sections constitute the 80% population of the area; and

(c) if so, the time by which Government propose to start work in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to open on an average one Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district of the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period. In district Patna one such Vidyalaya has already been established at village Vikram during 1987-88.

[English]

**Central Assistance to Bihar for Eradication of Kala-Azar**

6114. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of experts committee on Kala-azar appointed by Government in 1985 to control the disease are yet to be implemented;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the nature and quantum of the Central assistance given to Government of Bihar to control the disease and the actual utilisation by State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). The Group of Experts of Kala-azar constituted by Government of India, had recommended that a National Kala-azar Control Programme should be launched in the country.

The recommendations of the Group of Experts on Kala-azar were considered and it was decided that in view of the focal nature of the disease, the programme for control of Kala-azar should be taken up in the endemic States of Bihar and West Bengal as an extension of malaria control activities with 50:50 funding pattern subject to the Government of Bihar and West Bengal agreeing to provide matching contribution. While the Government of West Bengal had agreed to the launching of Kala-azar Control Programme on 50:50 cost sharing basis between the Centre and State, no reply has been received from the Government of Bihar so far.

(c) There is at present no central plan scheme for control of kala-azar. However, insecticides like D.D.T. are being supplied to Government of Bihar under NMEP (Rural). During 1987-88, against the target of 10.4 million population for insecticidal spray coverage against Kala-azar, the State Government achieved the spray coverage of 9.7 million population.

**Special Education Units in Universities**

6115. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a profile for establishing 'special education units' in universities has been developed so that "quality" teacher education programmes for dealing with the handicapped children could be undertaken;

(b) whether the University Grants Commission has sanctioned setting up of such units in 16 universities and Colleges of Education; and

(c) if so, how many handicapped persons are likely to be covered up under it and the number of teachers who will be benefited under the proposed sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) (a) and (b). The University Grants Commission has been assisting the introduction of special education programmes for the training of teachers required to expand the educational facilities for the handicapped. Eight University Deptts./Institutions are presently receiving assistance from the UGC for this purpose. A meeting of the Deans/Heads of the Departments of Education of these Universities/Institutions was held in early February, 1988 to develop guidelines to rationalise programmes of Teacher Education in this area. They also recommended that the NCERT may draw up the profile of Special Education Units in the Departments of Education.

(c) The objective of the Programme assisted by the UGC is to train teachers teaching handicapped children. According to information available, about 160 teachers have been trained in special education for the handicapped.

#### **Concrete Road Surface on National Highways**

**6116. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:** Will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether concrete roads are more economical to build than the conventional bitumen roads;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide concrete road surface by using cement on National Highways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The economics of a particular type of road pavement is dependant on various factors like design requirements, site conditions, availability of materials etc. and has to be worked out in each individual case.

(b) There is no specific proposal under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **High Powered Committee for ban on Sex Determination Tests**

**6117. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high powered committee appointed to go into the various aspects of regulating a ban on sex determination tests has been given any time frame to submit its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the legislation in this regard is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):