

candidates for the Civil Services Examination, including those from rural areas, would acquire the minimum educational qualification by the time they attain the age of about 21 years which leaves them about 4-5 years' time to appear for the examination even under the upper age limit of 26 years.

4. On the advice of the Union Public Service Commission to reduce the upper age limit as early as possible the decision to reduce the upper age limit to 26 years was to be implemented with effect from the Civil Services Examination, 1985. However, on the basis of representations from several students who could not avail of more than one chance within the reduced upper age limit after the reduction in age limit was declared in 1983, it was decided to postpone the implementation of the decision to the Civil Services Examination commencing in 1986. Quite a few candidates, who had not availed of three chances, represented that the decision of the Government may be implemented only from the Civil Services Examination commencing in 1987. Hence, in order to give such candidates, who might have been affected as regards the number of chances available to them, a third and final chance to appear in the Civil Services Examination, the Government decided to keep the upper age limit at 28 for the Civil Services Examination, 1986. However, Government has reaffirmed its resolve to implement the upper age limit of 26 years from the Civil Services Examination commencing in 1987.

5. As regards the request for establishment of coaching centres for candidates in backward areas, Government has agreed to it in principle.

Main Frame Computers

543. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRI V. S VIJAYARAGHAVAN :
SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have cleared the multimillion dollar project for making main frame computers in collaboration with

the American company, Computer Data Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US has also agreed to supply super computers to India; and

(d) if not, what is the precise proposal and at what stage the matter stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENTS, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under the collaboration arrangement, the Control Data Corporation will provide the know how required for the manufacture of two series of computers namely Cyber 810 and 830. The project will be initiated by Electronics Corporation of India Limited, Hyderabad, a public sector undertaking. The project is expected to be commenced in the beginning of the financial year 1986-87.

(c) and (d). Purchase of super computers are under various states of discussion with the US Companies. If the Indian parties decide upon a particular model of the computer suited to their requirements and obtain approval from the Government of India in this regard, the concerned US company will be required to put an official request to the US Government for export clearance.

Implementation of schemes under 20-Point Programme

544. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the welfare programmes started by various Ministries and Departments under their administrative control have been gauged through;

(b) the action taken to watch the progress made in case of various projects particularly those which are closely linked with the uplift of the weaker sections of the society;