

[English]

[Translation]

**Import of Rice****Primary Education**

2024. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATIL:  
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import rice during 1992;

(b) if so, the quantity and estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the countries from which the imports are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (c). The possibility of importing some rice during 1992-93 to augment overall foodgrain stocks in the Central Pool is being looked into.

**Doubling of Chandil-Muri Section on S.E. Railway**

2025. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling the Chandil-Muri Section of the S.E. Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Doubling is taken up when the sectional capacity of a single line with various operational improvements gets saturated. The traffic level on Chandil-Muri section has not yet reached this level.

2026. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:  
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government have examined the World Bank study on "Education in Asia - A Comparative Study of Cost and Financing".

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to stress for liberalised funding in favour of primary education in lieu of higher education to remove illiteracy and high drop out rates; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT CULTURE OF IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI. SELJA): (a) to (c). The World Bank regional and sectoral study "Education in Asia - A Comparative Study of Cost and Financing" (1992) refers, among other things, to the Problem of drop outs in primary and secondary schools and analyses the efficiency of expenditure in this sector while underlining the need for adequate allocation for primary education.

The main focus in the 8th Plan is on human development and it gives priority to universalisation of elementary education in its threefold dimensions enrollment, participation and achievement with special emphasis on girls of weaker sections and working children. Accordingly, the Central allocation for elementary education has been increased from 29.12% in the 6th Plan to 38.7% in the 8th Plan. Presently Rs. 2880/- crores have been provided by making adjustments in other related sectors.