

S. No.	Opening date		Super Bazar Branch Name & Address
13.	18.9.93	"	Varun Niketan Pitampura, Water Works Colony, New Delhi.
14.	12.10.93	"	Poorvanchl Branch, Shop No.2, Poorvanchal, J.N.U. Complex, New Delhi.
15.	23.11.93	"	NOIDA (Drug Outlet) Shop No. 8, Sector. 15A, NOIDA (U.P.)
16.	2.2.94	"	R.P. Block, Pitampura, Shop No. 17, R.P. Block, Pitampura, Delhi.
17.	16.2.94	"	East Patel Nagar (Drugoutlet) Rajendra Bhawan, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi.

Expenditure on Education

3962. SHRISOBHANADRESWARA
RAO VADDE:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

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

(a) the target date fixed to achieve for spending six percent of GDP on education as recommended by Kothari Commission almost three decades ago and subsequently supported by other commissions and experts;

(b) the educational budget of the Central and State Governments in terms of quantum

and percentage of GDP during the last three years;

(c) whether the Central and State Governments spend approximately twenty five percent of their educational budgets, on higher education benefiting only small percentage of the entire student community at the cost of primary and vocational education; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b).

The expenditure on education of the Centre and States was Rs. 17,193.66 crore in 1990-91, Rs. 19009.29 crore (RE) in 1991-92 and Rs. 20,750.09 crore (BE) in 1992-93. The expenditure of 1990-91 was 3.7% of the GNP which rose from 2.9% in 1965-66 when the Kothari Commission submitted its report. The national resolve has been to achieve the level of 6%. The achievement of this goal is linked with the overall availability of resources and the competing claims of other sectors.

(c) and (d). During the year 1992-93 an amount of Rs. 2,631.98 crore has been provided for general higher education which forms 12.7% of the total education budget of the Central and State Governments.

It is necessary to take a holistic view of the national system. Also expenditure in one sector of education is not at the cost of other sectors. The Government gives the highest priority to primary education but higher education has its own importance as it provides qualified man-power for the national system.

Closure of Mathura Refinery

3963. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:
PROF. KV.. THOMAS:
DR. K.D. JESWANI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "SC threatens closure of refinery" appearing in The Hindustan Times dated March 9, 1994.

(b) whether the Supreme Court has again remind the Union Government of its

constitutional obligation to protect the Taj Mahal from the Mathur Oil Refinery which is causing danger to its existence;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to protect the monument from environmental pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of India is aware of the pollution problem in the Agra Mathura Region and is continuously monitoring the progress of pollution control in this region. A number of programmes have been called out and the implemented through various Ministries like Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ministry of Surface Transport, Archeological Survey of India, Ministry of Industry etc.

The emission of SO₂ (sulphur dioxide) from Mathura Refinery is about 600 to 700 kg per hour against the maximum prescribed standard of 1000 kg per hour. The Mathura refinery is situated at 40 km down wind of the Taj Mahal. The impact of SO₂ emission from Mathura Refinery to the Taj Mahal is about 1.0 microgram/qu.m (as per IMD calculation). This impact will be further reduced by the proposed hydro cracker unit at the Mathura Refinery.

(d) Action taken by the Government to protect the monument from environmental pollution include:

(i) A trapezium surroundings the Taj Mahal has been demarcated. No new polluting industry is allowed to