

Illiteracy in Adivasi Area of Gujarat

3161. SHRI AMARSINGH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great illiteracy in Adivasi area of Gujarat State; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to open more primary schools in that area to remove this evil from the country?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to Tribal area Sub-Plan (1974—79), the State Government has a plan to open new primary schools in Adivasi area of Gujarat State.

Pollution of Ganga Water

3162. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ganga water has become polluted due to presence of dead bodies and half burnt bodies in the river; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take to avoid this pollution?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Although pollution load contributed by dead bodies and half burnt bodies in the river Ganga has not been measured yet the contribution by these two factors is insignificant.

(b) The Government of India have enacted the Water (Prevention, and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 with a view to preventing and Controlling Water Pollution and maintaining and restoring the wholesomeness of Water in the country. Under the provisions of the Act, the Central Government has established the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution to function as an apex body

at national level and the State Board in respect of Union Territories. Similarly various State Governments have also set up State Boards for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution.

Hostel for S.T. and S.C. Students in Rural Areas

3163. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state what is the pattern of assistance in case any social organisation constructs Hostels for S.T. and S.C. students in Rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): There is no scheme of the Ministry of Education under which assistance is given for construction of Hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students. However, there is a Centrally sponsored scheme for Hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe girl students operated by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Under their scheme, in so far as voluntary organisations are concerned, financial assistance is given for the additional expansion of the existing hostels only. The organisations are required to contribute 10 per cent of the total approved cost of the scheme.

Conversion of Manual Exchange at Sambalpur as Auto-Exchange

3164. DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal in his Ministry to convert the present Manual Telephone Exchange at Sambalpur to Auto-Exchange; and

(b) if so, the time schedule for completion of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) and (b). The establishment of an auto-exchange at Sambalpur has been approved in principle. It has however, not been possible so far to allot

the necessary equipment for this purpose due to limited availability of such equipment in the country. Various steps are in hand to augment the production capacity of auto-exchange equipment.

This process is likely to take some time. It is expected that Sambalpur Exchange can be converted to auto working by about 1984.

Committee regarding supply of Uniforms to P. and T. Staff

3165. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the P and T department has appointed a committee to go into the entire question of supply of uniforms to the P and T staff;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the staff unions have demanded inclusion of staff representative in the said Committee; and

(c) if so, the decision of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):

(a) The P and T Board has appointed a Working Group of Departmental Officers to look into the question of change of the type and quality of cloth for uniforms, the colour of uniforms standardisation of half a dozen or more sizes, the periodicity for supply of such uniforms and other relevant details.

(b) and (c). The Staff Side in a recent meeting of the Committee on uniforms constituted by the Departmental Council of Joint Consultative Machinery (P & T) had desired that one of these representatives should be associated with the Working Group. They were informed that they could put their point of view before the working Group and this will be given due consideration by the Group.

Drinking Water in Jammu and Kashmir State

3166. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHACK: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drinking water in many villages in Jammu and Kashmir State has not been provided so far;

(b) if so, how many villages are still which have not been provided with drinking water upto now;

(c) whether the Union Government have not so far given any loan and assistance to the State Government in this regard;

(d) whether the State Government had prepared a Plan for this and had requested the Union Government to provide funds for the purpose; and

(e) if so, what are the provisions that are being made by the Union Government during the current financial year and also during the Sixth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 5175 as on 1-4-1980.

(c) No, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, grants-in-aid were given to the State Government as under:—

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1977-78	152.80
1978-79	200.00
1979-80	182.05

(d) and (e). The State Government has prepared a Plan. Provision of drinking water supply is the responsibility of the State Government and the funds are provided for this purpose in the State sector. Central assistance is provided to supplement