

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional employment generated through the Food for Work Programme during 1978-79 over the previous year per selected household of the sample villages varied from 3 mandays to 167 mandays. The extent of additional employment generated over the last year ranged from 0.7 per cent to 76.1 per cent. The overall percentage increase in employment for all the selected beneficiaries in the villages investigated was 10.9.

(c) Of the total beneficiaries, 50.6 per cent were agricultural labourers, 22.4 per cent cultivators, 19.07 per cent non-agricultural labourers and 7.3 per cent others.

Vocational Courses at Higher Secondary Stage

105. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of institutions and seats offering for Vocational courses in the secondary stage, State-wise, and actual enrolment in those institutions during the last three years;

(b) what are the openings before the boys who come out successful in the Higher Secondary examination in Vocational stream with regard to either jobs or higher education; and

(c) what machinery is sought to be evolved for establishing linkage between industry and educational authorities in the States for securing co-ordination between man power planning and vocational education keeping the special needs of the region in view?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Learning while Earning

106. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) how the principle of 'learning while earning' is being sought to be implemented in the Sixth Plan; and

(b) what facilities for part time education are proposed to be given to the students of economically weaker sections in colleges located in the working class areas and small towns?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The principle of 'Learning while earning' is being implemented through a net work of part-time education at all levels of education, particularly in Higher and Technical education, where facilities for correspondence courses, evening colleges and other forms of part time education are proposed to be encouraged as emphasised in the Draft Sixth Plan.

(b) The policy of the Central Government has been that the increasing demand for higher education should largely be met through provision of facilities for part-time courses, correspondence courses etc. Such facilities, wherever provided, are also available to the economically weaker sections. The identification of colleges for introduction of part time courses is however a matter for the State Governments to decide in consultation with the Universities concerned, keeping in view various factors like adequate demand for enrolment in part-time courses to make them viable, availability of teaching staff for part-time classes, etc.

Mid-day Meals Programme

107. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the importance of the Mid-day Meals Programme at the primary stage for the universalisa-