

(b) Yes Sir. It is proposed to abolish manual handling of night soil and rehabilitate the liberated scavengers within a period of five Years.

(c) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for liberation of Scavengers is being implemented with the twin objective of (a) converting the existing household/community dry latrines into water borne latrines in selected medium and small towns and (b) rehabilitation of scavengers in the alternative dignified employment/occupations.

Increase in Allocation to Encourage Literacy

3343. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enhance the percentage of amount to be spent on education to encourage the literacy programme ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Universalisation of elementary education, including non-formal education and the National Literacy Mission which aims at imparting functional literacy to 80 million adult illiterates in the 15—35 age group form an integral part of a larger programme for eradication of illiteracy in the country. Within the overall size of resources, the allocation for adult education and elementary education has continuously increased, particularly after the adoption of the National

Policy on Education, 1986 and Launching of the National Literacy Mission in May, 88. As against the Annual Plan allocation of Rs. 151.12 crores for adult education and Rs. 843.15 crores for elementary education during 1990-91 for the central and the state sectors taken together, the proposed/outlay for adult education and elementary education for 1991-92 is of the order of Rs. 178.75 crores and Rs. 1036.43 crores, respectively.:

[English]

Free and Compulsory Education to Children

3344. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :

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

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Union and State Governments during Seventh Five Year Plan to implement the 'Operation Blackboard' programme in the country;

(b) whether drop out rate in primary schools is very high in the country and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of drop out rate for the last three years, State-wise ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to check drop out rate ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) An

amount of Rs. 372.98 crores was released by Centre to the States/UTs and Rs. 581 crores was mobilised by States under the scheme of 'Operation Blackboard' during VII Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) As per the latest data available pertaining to the year 1987-88, dropout rate at primary stage was 46.97%. A statement indicating the Statewise details for the three preceding years is attached. Some of the reasons for children dropping out of school are :—

- (i) Children are required to work to supplement the family income or otherwise assist their parents ;
 - (ii) Girls have to attend to household chores including fetching water and looking after the siblings ;
 - (iii) Schools have inadequate facilities and insufficient instructional material ; and
 - (iv) Reluctance of parents to send girls to school.
- (d) Some of the main steps being

taken are :—

- (i) Improvement of facilities in primary schools under the scheme of Operation Blackboard ;
- (ii) Provision of programmes of part-time Non-Formal Education for school dropouts, girls, working children who cannot attend whole day schools and children in habitations without school ;
- (iii) Establishment of District Institute of Education and Training for improving teacher effectiveness ;
- (iv) The provision of primary schools within 1 km. walking distance from all habitations with a population of 300. In the case of SC/ST habitations, the norm is relaxed to include habitations with population of 200 ; and
- (v) Provision of incentives to socio-economically backward children for free uniform, free text-books, attendance scholarship for girls, mid-day meals etc.

STATEMENT

Drop-out rate at Primary Stage

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
1	Andhra Pradesh	55.18	59.60	55.03
2	Assam	61.71	64.16	55.01
3	Bihar	64.50	65.42	65.63
4	Gujarat	41.73	44.49	41.92
5	Haryana	28.28	29.26	27.32
6	Himachal Pradesh	31.56	31.56	28.63
7	Jammu & Kashmir	40.93	39.16	33.44
8	Karnataka	57.66	55.98	50.16

STATEMENT—contd.

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
9	Kerala	3.86	0.41	4.39
10	Madhya Pradesh	39.55	42.40	41.04
11	Maharashtra	44.61	42.12	39.82
12	Manipur	72.24	72.86	71.67
13	Meghalaya	32.65	66.99	32.35
14	Nagaland	21.65	24.31	35.45
15	Orissa	49.77	51.34	38.97
16	Punjab	50.56	39.38	37.27
17	Rajasthan	49.02	51.08	52.25
18	Sikkim	60.53	62.61	59.86
19	Tamil Nadu	22.48	22.28	21.78
20	Tripura	62.38	62.46	58.65
21	Uttar Pradesh	43.68	45.82	47.65
22	West Bengal	60.25	62.72	63.81
23	A & N Islands	23.84	25.65	20.54
24	Arunachal Pradesh	65.45	64.46	58.63
25	Chandigarh	12.69	5.32	4.78
26	D & N Haveli	45.08	42.81	36.14
27	Delhi	20.02	14.26	19.76
28	Goa, Daman & Diu	8.67	11.13	5.33
29	Mizoram	11.14	40.54	37.98
30	Lakshadweep	1.82	20.16	4.02
31	Pondicherry	14.31	9.90	5.59
	Total	47.61	48.60	46.97

[Translation]

**Pitamber-Patra National Environment
Scholarship**

3345. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had introduced Pitamber-Patra National Environment Scholarship in 1978 for promotion of and specialisation in research in any branch of environmental science ; and

(b) if so, the names of the talented personalities on whom this award has

been conferred, the important research conducted and development work done by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The Government has instituted the Pitamber Pant National Environment Fellowship Award in 1978 to encourage and recognise excellence in research in environmental sciences.

(b) The information is given in the attached Statement.