

[*English*]**CNC MACHINES**

2386. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of CNC (Computerised Numerically Controlled) Machine Tools imported during the last three years as part of the modernisation programme of Railway workshops, names of countries from where imported and the capital outlay involved;

(b) the number of CNC Machine Tools purchased from indigenous manufacturers during the above period; and

(c) what are the current plans of the Railways for acquisition of CNC Machine Tools during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) A total of 23 nos. of CNC machines were imported during the last three years from Japan, Germany, France, Belgium and U.S.A. involving an outlay of Rs. 2539.87 lakhs.

(b) 29 Nos. CNC machines were procured from indigenous source.

(c) 17 CNC machines at total estimated cost of Rs. 1517 lakhs.

[*Translation*]**OUT AGENCIES IN GUJARAT**

2387. **SHRI N. J. RATHVA** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Out Agencies in Gujarat alongwith their locations ;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such Agencies at some more places in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these Agencies are likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Only one Out Agency is functioning at Ambaji in Banaskantha District in Gujarat.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) New Out Agencies are opened on public demand depending on traffic requirement and financial justification.

RAILWAY PROJECT IN BANGLADESH

2388. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bangladesh has requested India to construct a 132 Km. double-line stretch on the Dhaka-Chittagong section; and

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under examination.

EXCHANGE OF YOUTH DELEGATION

2389. **DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO** :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

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

(a) whether the Government have started a plan for exchange of youth delegations at international level;

(b) if so, the total number of delegations so far sent abroad for cultural activities and the countries they have visited during the last one year;

(c) the criteria laid down for selecting youth from the States; and

(d) the total number of cultural exchange programmes between India and other countries held during the last one year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Youth Affairs & Sports sends youth delegations abroad for promotion of friendship and mutual understanding. It had sent three youth delegations to Japan during 1992-93.

(c) The criteria laid down by the inviting countries are followed. However, at the time of selecting youth delegations regional representation is given due consideration.

(d) 14 Cultural Exchange Programme between India and other countries have been signed during 1992-93.

[English]

COMMITTEE ON ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

2390. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee had been constituted by the Government for suggesting improvements in the Adult Education Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by this Committee;

(e) whether these recommendations have been implemented;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The Government has constituted an Expert Group for status-cum-impact evaluation of Literacy Campaigns and to gauge the qualitative aspects of the programme. The group is chaired by Prof. Arun Ghosh and consists of Prof. Veena Mazumdar, Prof. Andhre Beteille, Prof. U. R. Ananthmurty, Prof. S. M. Kansal and Shri Achin Vanaik.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (g) Do not arise.

IMPORT OF PLANTS AND SEEDS

2391. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify quarantine procedures for import of seed and plant materials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations from the foreign seed companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Simplification of quarantine procedures has been taken up in a pragmatic manner. Details of simplification of procedure for import of seed and plant materials are as under :

(i) Issuance of import Permits (IPS) has been decentralised.

(ii) The Plant Quarantine clearance period in case of seeds has been reduced from 45 days to 30-35 days and in case of bulbs/tubers from 50 days to 35-40 days.

(iii) The Plants/Plant materials requiring post-entry quarantine (PEQ) condition are released within 1-3 days at the port of entry.

(iv) Tissue culture materials are released within six hours at the port of entry.

(v) The requirement of IP in case of Plants and plant materials meant for consumption and the IP & Phytosanite certificates (PSC) in case of the materials imported through foreign post channels and as air accompanied baggage has been done away.

(vi) The requirement of IP in case of the import of Mushroom Spawn culture by 100% Export Oriented Units has been dispensed with.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.