

(c) if so, whether there is any scheme of Government to improve the state of education and to construct buildings for schools along with other developmental activities relating thereto; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Bihar is one of the nine educationally backward states and according to the IVth All India Educational Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (with reference date as 30.9.1978) 23.67 per cent of primary schools and 69.22 per cent of the secondary schools were housed in pucca buildings. The same survey also indicates that 65.47 per cent of the primary schools in the State had atleast two teachers while at secondary stage 96.12 per cent of the sanctioned posts of teachers were filled.

(c) and (d). The State received assistance for construction/repair of 10249 school buildings under National Rural Employment Programme and for construction/repair of 3800 school buildings under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. The Eighth Finance Commission also recommended devolution of funds amounting to Rs. 40.79 crores for construction of school buildings in Bihar. The National Policy on Education envisages a new scheme symbolically called 'OPERATION BLACKBOARD' under which assistance will be provided to the primary schools for construction of school buildings to ensure availability of two pucca rooms, appointment of second teacher in single teacher schools and for provision of essential facilities in primary schools.

Introduction of bi-monthly/quarterly passes scheme

566. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received suggestions from the Delhi Transport Corporation regarding introduction of bi-monthly or quarterly passes (concessional monthly tickets) scheme;

(b) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). No. proposal has been received for introduction of bi-monthly passes. However, DTC have proposed a scheme for introduction of Quarterly and half yearly passes on which no final decision has yet been taken.

[English]

New branches of Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Bihar

567. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not establishing branches of Nehru Yuvak Kendra in the Gumla and Lohardaga districts of Bihar; and

(b) the time by which these are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b). A Nehru Yuva Kendra in each district of the country is being set up in a phased manner and Nehru Yuva Kendras in the districts of Gumla and Lohardaga are also expected to be set in the course of the VII Five Year Plan.

Danger of radiation at Indira Gandhi International Airport

568. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of employees of the Indira Gandhi International Airport have been running the risk of exposure to dangerous amount of radiation while handling radio-active parcels without proper precautions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and