

Unsold Books with N.B.T.

2367. SHRI K. RAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than 40 lakh copies of various titles of books were lying unsold with the National Book Trust as on March 31, 1986, of which 14 lakh were copies of Hindi titles and about 10 lakh were of English titles;

(b) the number of various titles that remained unsold as on March 31, 1987; and

(c) the action being taken to sell those copies remaining unsold with the Trust ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) No, Sir. 22.9 lakh copies of various titles were lying unsold with National Book Trust as on March 31, 1986 out of which the number of copies of Hindi and English titles were 5.08 lakhs and 5.33 lakhs respectively.

(b) 24,21,833 copies of various titles remained unsold with the Trust as on March 31, 1987.

(c) Publication and sale of books is a continuous process. However, efforts are being made by the National Book Trust to improve sale of its publications. School, College and institutional libraries and Government Departments are being contacted for purchase of NBT books. In addition NBT publications are being publicised through advertisements and book reviews, in newspapers/magazines.

Recommendations/Suggestions Regarding Service Conditions of Nurses

2368. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received suggestion/recommendations, for improving the standard and service conditions of nur-

ses, from the High Powered Committee on Nurses and Nursing Profession; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHA-PARDE) : (a) The Government has not received the report of the Committee.

(b) Does not arise.

Theft of Antiquities

2369. SHRI BANWARI LAL PURHOIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of antiquities from different temples, archaeological sites and big museums have been stolen and smuggled out of the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases which came to light during the last three years. year-wise;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to provide sophisticated security measures at these places to avoid theft of antiquities; 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 (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) and (b). There is no precise information available regarding smuggling of antiquities out of the country. However, 1556 cases of thefts of antiquities have been registered as a result of concerted efforts of the agencies of the Government. The yearwise breakup is as below :—

1985	637
1986	435
1987	484