

(c) and (d). The entrepreneurs have indicated that the estimated cost of the project is about Rs 300 crores and that this project will provide direct employment to 400 to 500 persons.

Steps to Revamp Family Welfare Programme in Corporate Sector

437. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to revamp the family welfare programme in the corporate sector;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the response of the corporate sector to this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Government is continuously making efforts to involve the Corporate Sector under its Family Welfare activities. Many major units in the country have already taken up Family Welfare activities as one of their corporate objectives. Apex Organisations of industrial houses like FICCI, PHDCCI, EFI AIOE, etc. have also been involved by the Government in the Family Welfare programme. Government of India have also introduced a number of projects with the assistance of ILO and UNFPA in the Corporate Sector for motivating the members towards accepting the small family norm. A number of meetings and workshops have been held all over the country for involving the Corporate Sector in the Family Welfare Programme. A National Tripartite Committee on Family Welfare Planning involving representatives of Government, Employees Associations and Trade Unions has been constituted with a

view to advise the Government on the policies and practices of Family Welfare. So far the response of the Corporate Sector towards these programmes has been encouraging.

Recommendations of Association of Indian Universities

438. SHRI K.RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the 62nd Annual meeting of the Association of Indian Universities held in Hyderabad on 17 December, 1987; and

b) the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The major recommendations that emerged out of the deliberations at the meeting are listed in the statement given below:

(b) The follow-up action will be taken by the various Sub-Committees of the Association of Indian Universities.

STATEMENT

1. Frequent interferences, in the functioning of universities by the Centre and State Governments has greatly impinged upon the academic, administrative and financial autonomy of universities. The governments should, therefore, restrain themselves from interfering in the functioning of the Universities.
2. Most of the universities are suffering from paucity of resources.

- As a result, inadequacy of infrastructure facilities for teaching and research adversely affect the quality of higher education. It is, therefore, desirable that the UGC should be provided development grants on 100 per cent basis and State Government should release reasonable amount of funds for meeting maintenance expenditure.
3. In order to improve communication network in universities, the UGC should expedite the release of funds on liberal basis to the universities for such modern communication facilities as telex, Computer hookup wireless and internal TV circuits etc.
 4. The services rendered by the universities should be extended to the people of the areas where they are situated. In this connection, University-Community interaction should be promoted and strengthened in order to enhance the contributions of universities to the society.
 5. In pursuance with the constitutional objective of bringing about parity between the two sexes, the universities should develop suitable curriculum so as to achieve the laudable objective of Women's equality in our society.
 6. The youth of our country take part in adventure activities, participate in camps, exchange programmes and social services so as to develop a comprehensive and integrated personality. It was, therefore, suggested that NCC should be an optional subject in the university curricu-

lum.

7. With a view to promoting higher education and research, the links between universities and research councils like ICSSR and CSIR should be strengthened.
8. In pursuance with the resolution of the World Health Organisation for achieving the objective of Health for All by 2000 AD, the universities should introduce Diploma/Degree Courses in Health Sciences.
9. Service conditions of Vice Chancellors and other University Administrators should be reationalised and their salaries and other allowances should be determined in commensurate with their qualifications and experience as well as responsibilities entrusted to them.
10. The linkages between secondary and university education ought to be established through the development of suitable curriculum and evaluation system so that mobility of students especially those pursuing vocational streams of education could be ensured.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of Narrow Gauge Line In Gwalior Into Broad Gauge

439. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to convert narrow gauge line in Gwalior into