

(SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. Navodaya Vidyalayas being new and growing institutions, regular in-service courses for teachers are being organised by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti for their professional growth/development.

Nickel and Cobalt Extraction

1404. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the manner in which the requirement of Nickel and Cobalt is being met in the country;

(b) whether Government have plans of exploiting indigenously the lateritic ores for producing nickel and cobalt;

(c) if so, the places selected for exploiting the lateritic ores; and

(d) the names of countries and terms offered to those countries for making nickel and cobalt from lateritic ores ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : (a) The requirement of Nickel and Cobalt metals in the country is met through imports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Damage to Paddy Crop in Kuttanad Region of Kerala

1405. SHRI VAKKOM PURSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention to Government has been drawn to the damage caused to paddy crop in Kuttanad region of Kerala due to floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to support the growers in region whose crops have been damaged ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND

COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. According to the reports received from Government of Kerala, there have been widespread damage. Standing crops have been badly damaged.

(c) State Government is taking action to provide assistance to farmers to restart paddy cultivation.

Prices of N.C.E.R.T. Books

1406. SHRI C. JANGA REEDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of various books for School Children published by NCERT have been increased recently;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether in many States the books are in short supply; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to make the NCERT books available to the students without any difficulty ?

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). Yes, Sir. The price of some the new and reprint text books pulished by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) this year has increased by Rs. 0.05 to Rs. 5.45 per title due to increased cost of inputs and increased in number of pages, illustrations, colours in printing etc.

(c) and (d). At the State level, the State Textbook agencies are responsible for publishing and distributing school text books in their respective States. NCERT caters to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliated schools including Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Central Tibetan Schools, Sainik Schools and Indian Schools abroad. While the reprint editions of the NCERT textbooks have been generally made available in time, there has been some delay in publishing new text

books for 1988-89 brought out by the Council. Arrangements have been made this year for Assistant Commissioners of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to lift their requirements of new text books for their respective zones from the NCERT at Delhi so as to ensure their availability in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the shortest possible time.

Wildlife Development Schemes

1407. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the financial allocation made during the Seventh Plan for wild life development schemes in Gujarat;

(b) the details of schemes and progress made so far; and

(c) the central assistance released to Gujarat against each of the scheme upto 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :

(a) Central financial allocations for wild-life development in the Seventh Plan are not earmarked Statewise.

(b) and (c). Details of the funds released to Gujarat are as given below. These funds have been fully utilised.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Scheme	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Assistance to States for development of National Parks.	0.05	0.90	18.35
Assistance to States for development of sanctuaries.	—	2.93	15.84
Assistance for Nature Education and Interpretation programme.	—	1.25	—
Assistance for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.	—	3.00	1.75

Industrial Pollution

1408. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pollution causing units in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have issued guidelines to curb pollution;

(c) if so, the reasons why these units are not taking pollution control measures; and

(d) the action taken against these units ?

(a) The number of major pollution causing industries so far identified in Delhi is 63.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). While many of these units have already taken many pollution control measures, some are in the process of implementing such schemes. Action taken against the remaining defaulting industries include the following :-

(i) Show cause notices for closure have been issued against some industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(ii) Prosecutions have been launched against many of the defaulting industries.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :