

detection and suppression of forest fires. The experience gained from the project will be made available to other States for guidance and use.

(c) The Government policy in regard to development of forests in the country is protection and augmentation of forest resources and assistance given to the State Governments include afforestation; protection of forests from illegal felling, fire and grazing; training; research; conservation of wildlife and forest eco-systems.

Guidelines Issued by MSTC Regarding Allotment of Ships for Ship-Breaking at Calcutta

2394. SHRI R.P. DAS :
SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC) has issued guidelines for allotment of ships to ship-breaking units in April, 1988 ;

(b) whether according to these guidelines further allotment of old ships to Calcutta Port for ship-breaking has been denied ;

(c) if so, whether consequently 14 ship-breaking units of Calcutta will be out of business resulting in loss of jobs to a large number of ancillary unit workers ;

(d) whether Union Government propose to reconsider the situation and withdraw the said directives/guidelines ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). MSTC's guidelines for allotment of old imported ships to ship breaking units for 1988-89 do not envisage supply of these ships to units registered at Calcutta. This policy is continuing since 1986-87.

(c) Though supply of imported ships to ship-breaking units at Calcutta is not made by MSTC they undertake breaking of Indian flag Vessels and vessels sold by the Port

Trust and under Court orders. Hence there is no question of ship-breaking units at Calcutta going out of business or workers losing their jobs.

(d) and (e). No reconsideration of the policy of allotment of imported ships to ship-breaking units of Calcutta is necessary as Indian Flag Vessels and vessels sold by Port Trusts and under Court orders are sufficient to sustain the ship-breaking activities at Calcutta.

Recognition of "Pahari" Language

2395. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received a demand to recognise the regional language 'Pahari' of Himachal Pradesh by the Sahitya Akademi and the Union Government ;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon and the time by which 'Pahari' language will be given recognition ; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for promotion and development of all the regional languages including 'Pahari' in which literary works are being created on large scale and the number of persons speaking each of these regional languages is more than ten lakh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has been in respect of inclusion of Pahari language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India and recognition of this language by the Sahitya Akademi.

(b) As regards inclusion of Pahari language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India, a reply has been sent stating that it is the endeavour of Government to promote cultural and literary heritage of all the languages irrespective of their inclusion in the Eighth Schedule. Regarding recognition of Pahari Language by the Sahitya Akademi, a reply has been sent intimating the criteria laid down by the Sahitya Akademi for recognition of languages.

(c) The Sahitya Akademi has pro-

grammes of activities in 22 languages which include the 15 languages listed in the 8th Schedule of Constitution and English, Dogri, Maithili, Rajasthani, Manipuri, Nepali and Konkani. In 1985 the Akademi has set up a Language Development Board for taking up work for development of Indian Languages. Matching grants and incentives are given for publications and other literary activities particularly for the publication of (a) folklore, (b) translation from neighbouring languages (c) reprinting of important dictionaries and grammar. The Akademi's expenditure is incurred towards a common purpose of promotion of Indian literature in the aforesaid languages

Schools Covered under Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools Project

2396. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Secondary, Higher Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools in various States have been covered under the CLASS (Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools) project ;

(b) if so, the number of schools in each of the above categories in which CLASS project has been introduced, State-wise ; and

(c) whether any effort would be made so that this project covers at least some schools in each of the States/Union Territories, which have not been able to start this project so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A Pilot Project for Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) was launched in 1984-85 in 248 selected Secondary/Higher Secondary/Senior Secondary Schools. The teaching in schools is in class XI in States/UTs having higher secondary system (10+2) and in class X in States having 3-year secondary system. Pending finalisation of the regular programme on CLASS Project, 1701 more schools have been added on year

to year basis till 1987-88. Schools are allocated to the States/UTs in proportion to the total number of Secondary/Higher Secondary/Senior Secondary Schools located therein. No State/UT has been left uncovered by the programme. State/UT-wise allocation of schools selected during 1984-85, 85-86, 86-87 and 87-88 is given in the statement below.

(See columns 171—174).

District Centres for English Language Teaching

2397. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sanctioned and set up District Centres for English language teaching in the country as envisaged in the Programme of Action on National Policy on Education-1986 ;

(b) if so, number and the names of the District Centres, State-wise and the dates from which these have started functioning ;

(c) if not, the likely date by which all these centres would start functioning ; and

(d) the likely date by which at least one such centre would be set up in each State so as to cover all States/Union Territories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad has been entrusted with the responsibility of implementation of the scheme of setting up of District Centres for English Language Teaching.

(b) and (c). A statement is given below.

(See columns 175-176).

(d) It is expected that by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan period more States and UTs will come forward to set up District Centres in their territories.