

Kendriya Vidyalayas located in Bangalore.

(b) and (c). Children of employees of nationalised banks are considered for admission to the Kendriya Vidyalayas as per the priorities indicated in the admission policy. There is no proposal to revise the admission policy.

**Afforestation on Barren Areas in Karnataka**

2469. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has sent a Rs 100 Crore project to develop dry districts and hillock areas in the State on the lines of Western Ghat Scheme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any external assistance has also been sought by the Karnataka Government in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala**

2470. SHRI A. CHARLES : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Navodaya Vidyalayas sanctioned for the State of Kerala during the Seventh Plan period ;

(b) the number of Vidyalayas started so far ;

(c) the amount so far spent on each Vidyalaya ;

(d) whether any target date has been fixed for starting the Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala ; and

(e) if so, whether the target has been achieved and if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) So far, in the first four years of the 7th Plan period, ten Navodaya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned, four in 1986-87, three in 1987-88 and three in 1988-89.

(b) Seven Navodaya Vidyalayas have been started so far. Three more Navodaya Vidyalayas are expected to start during this month.

(c) The amount spent on each Vidyalaya depends on the year in which it is started. In the first year, we spent approximately Rs. 9.00 lakhs on its recurring costs, in the second year approximately Rs. 13.00 lakhs and in the third year approximately Rs. 17.00 lakhs.

(d) All Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country (excluding snow-bound areas) including Kerala are expected to start in the last week of July of every year.

(e) The target has so far been not achieved since the admission test and its results could not be processed in time in the initial stages of the implementation of this new Scheme.

**Construction of VSP**

2471. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Investment Board (PIB) has approved during the last week of June a massive investment of Rs. 6,849/- crores in the construction of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant ;

(b) whether the proposals were held up on account of non-clearance from the Department of Environment ; and

(c) whether after this approval by the Public Investment Board the Steel Plant would be commissioned as scheduled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Government approved a revision of cost estimates amounting to Rs. 6849.70 crores of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in June 1988.