

proposed to be taken to remove those constraints in the implementation of the policy?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b). The progress of implementation of the National Policy on Education, 1986 (NPE) is reviewed from time to time in official meetings at different levels and through correspondence. The physical and financial progress of the schemes under NPE is also reviewed while releasing grants to State Governments. The Scheme are at various stages of implementation in the States.

(c) and (d). There is a resource constraints. Resources are made available for Education depending upon the total availability of resources for development activities and the competing demand from other sectors. Notwithstanding the overall constraints, efforts are being made to implement programmes in the thrust areas under NPE as best as possible. The possibility of external funding through multilateral and bilateral sources in some crucial areas of education is also being explored.

PM's Foreign visit in July, 1989

2412. **SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:** Will be Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries visited by the Prime Minister in July, 1989; and

(b) the outcome of the discussions held by him with the leaders of these countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) France, USSR and Pakistan.

(b) *France*: The Prime Minister visited France at the invitation of President Mitterrand on the occasion of the Bi-centenary of

the French Revolution. He had meetings with President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Record on expanding bilateral cooperation as well as on international issues of interest to both countries.

(ii) *USSR*: Prime Minister's brief working visit to Moscow at President Gorbachev's invitation was in continuation of the tradition of regular India-Soviet Summits held annually since 1985. Major international developments since the two leaders last met in November 1988 were reviewed in depth. A broad agreement on global issues emerged. Both sides agreed to work towards intensification of our multi-faceted and dynamic bilateral cooperation and maintain this frequent high level dialogue, reflective of the importance attached by both countries to this relationship.

(iii) *Pakistan*: Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan was the first-ever bilateral visit by Indian Prime Minister since 1960 when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru visited Pakistan to sign the Indus Water Treaty. The substantive talks with leaders of Pakistan covered bilateral, regional and international issues. Bilateral issues discussed included Siachen, terrorism, Pakistan's nuclear programme, drugs, illegal border crossings, delimitation of maritime boundary and people-to-people exchange. The two Prime Ministers agreed that bilateral consultations at appropriate level should continue on a regular basis to identify further measures to improve cooperation in various areas. The Prime Minister extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of Pakistan to visit India, which was accepted with pleasure.

[*Translation*]

Decentralisation of IRDP

2413. **DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI:** Will be Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to decentralise the Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(b) if so, whether instructions have been issued to transfer most of the works to be completed under this programme, to Panchayats;

(c) whether Government have sent any circular also to States for the speedy implementation of those works; and

(d) if so, the details of the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d). The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is essentially a programme for providing income generating assets and skills. Identification of beneficiaries and selection of activities are to be done at the local level. Planning for backward and forward linkages is done at the block and district level. In this sense IRDP is already a decentralised programme.

To ensure an even spread of programme benefits, it was decided in consultation with the State Governments, to provide for 75% of the targets under IRDP to be allocated among the Panchayats/mandal on an equalable basis. Guidelines in this regard have been issued on 18.5.1989.

[English]

Joint Surveillance of Nuclear Facilities

2414. **SHRIMATI KISHORISINHA:** Will be Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has made any suggestion for joint surveillance of nuclear

facilities of both the countries; and

(b) if so, Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Pakistan has been making proposals, from time to time, on nuclear matters, in a narrow regional or bilateral context. Some of these have been on mutual inspection of nuclear facilities of both India and Pakistan.

(b) Government consider these matters basically of a global character and, therefore, not amenable to bilateral or regional solutions. As Pakistan's nuclear programme is well known to be weapons oriented Government need to be cautious in these matters.

Shortage of Teachers in Primary Schools

2415. **SHRI NARSINGH SURYAVANSI:** Will be Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth All-India Educational Survey has revealed that there is an acute shortage of teachers in primary schools and the Navodaya Vidyalyayas too suffer from such shortage; and

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the steps taken to provide adequate number of teachers in the schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The Fourth All India Educational Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) with 30th September, 1978 as the reference date revealed that the teacher : pupil ratio for the country as a whole was 1:41 at the primary stage and 34.75% of primary schools in the country had only one