

News Item Captioned "Varsities Neglecting Designs and Development"

9012. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the columns at page 6 of the Hindustan Times of April 6, 1979 where under the heading "Varsities neglecting design and development" it has been said that in our universities almost insignificant work is being done for latest technology including research on atomic energy etc.;

(b) if so, his reaction in the matter; and

(c) whether some steps are being proposed to be taken to encourage this type of research and acquaint our youths with the latest technology?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b). The press report is based on a study of the scientific and technical manpower for research and development in the University sector, conducted by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research. The study admits that the occupational pattern of scientific and technical personnel in the Universities is different from other sectors and that the major component of the job of faculty member is teaching, while research, in many cases, is a supplementary activity. According to the study, an analysis of the type of research in which scientific and technical personnel are engaged in the Universities shows that more than 90 per cent of them are engaged in basic and applied research and less than 10 per cent in design and development. It does not follow that design and development are being neglected or that basic and applied research is less important.

(c) Within the resources available, efforts are being made continuously to strengthen the research activities in the University Departments and also to support such programmes as are relevant to the national Research and Development effort, including research in emerging fields which are significant for development.

Repayment of H.R.A. Arrears in DDA

9013. SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) is it true that D.D.A. employees including deputationists from other Departments (appointed by Secretary DDA) are entitled to House Rent Allowance at 25 per cent of the pay as per terms of their service/deputation;

(b) some of these employees who were posted in Slum Department during Emergency were paid House rent allowance at the rate of 25 per cent upto 7-7-1977. But at a reduced rate of 15 per cent after this date in violation of the terms of their service/deputation;

(c) on re-posting back to DDA many of them have already been paid the difference of 10 per cent less paid in Slum Department whereas this difference has not been paid to some employees so far in spite of many representations; and

(d) if so, the period by which the DDA will clear these dues of the remaining employees.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SUKANDAR BAKHT): (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.