

in certain circumstances. All institutions which impart or are capable of imparting training to rural youth in any vocation leading to self-employment are eligible for assistance for strengthening their training capabilities. During the year 1979-80, proposals for a total amount of Rs. 277.550 lakhs were approved for strengthening of infrastructure. Out of it, a sum of Rs. 138.775 lakhs was released to Central agencies and State Governments. The balance amount will be released after the satisfactory progress in expenditure. For the year 1980-81, a sum of Rs. 29.587 lakhs has so far been approved for strengthening of infrastructure. Out of this Rs. 15.288 lakhs is being released to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Obsolete telephone exchanges in Monghyr District of Bihar

2856. SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the telephone exchanges at Barahiya, Barbigha, Sheikhpura in Monoghyr District (Bihar) have become obsolete and there is complete break down of the communication system in that area; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to improve telephone facilities speedily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No, Sir. The exchanges are not obsolete. There have, however, been frequent break-downs in service due to prolonged power shedding.

(b) Action is being taken to increase capacities of batteries at Barbigha and Sheikhpura to provide standby power for longer duration. The only lasting solution will be to ensure continuous supply from public power mains.

Death of a student in pond of Cathedral Nursery School, New Delhi

2857. SHRI CHHOTY SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VASUDAV ACHARYA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nehar Verma Alias Bobby aged 4 years died accidentally in the pond of Cathedral Nursery School, Church Road, New Delhi on 12th November, 1980 due to negligence of the staff during school hours;

(b) whether Government propose to take action in this regard; if not the reason therefor; and

(c) how this family will be compensated?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) According to the report received from the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, Nehar Verma Alias Bobby, aged 4 years died accidentally due to drowning in the pond located in the garden of the residence of the padri of the Cathedral Church, adjacent to the Cathedral Nursery School, Church Road, New Delhi, on 12-11-1980. No culpable negligence of the staff has been found.

(b) and (c). As the death of the child was accidental, Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

Seniority of employees transferred from Farakka Barrage Project

2858. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the seniority of Farakka Barrage Project employees transferred to different organisation specially in Ganga Basin Water Resources Organisation (now merged with C.W.C.) is proposed to be maintained from their date of appointment in Farakka Barrage Project; and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?