

constituted by the Government of West Bengal has stated in its report of January, 1980 that erosion of the right bank of Ganga downstream and of the left bank upstream of Farakka Barrage was taking place much before the construction of the Barrage.

(c) Measures to check bank erosion have been taken by the West Bengal Government where necessary. The Farakka Barrage authorities have also taken steps to protect the works of the Farakka Barrage complex likely to be affected by this erosion.

Cheaper milk for rural under-fed

8812. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the pleas of modernisation of dairy industry through provision of sophisticated equipment cross-breed cows, artificial feeds, insemination, veterinary care, new packaging and vending methods etc., the milk is being made costlier year after year; and

(b) if so, the nature of counter-measures proposed to be taken to allow the milk to remain within the reach of common man especially the rural under-fed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). The programmes of cattle-cum-dairy development aim at increasing the levels of productivity of the milch cattle through improved breeding, better feeding and management practices including health care, and arrangements for a reasonable price for the milk through proper processing and marketing facilities. The objective is to provide more productive employment to the rural milch cattle owners and generally increase the availability of wholesome milk for all sections of people at reasonable prices.

Implementation of recommendations made by Committee on Status of Women

8813. SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to implement recommendations made in 1975 by the Committee on the Status of Woman; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

Statement

Of the 52 recommendations made by the Committee on the Status of Women in India, many are of long term nature and relate in essence to continuing programmes. The recommendations were examined by an Empowered Committee. Some of the recommendations were modified by the Committee and some were not recommended for acceptance. The Government accepted the views of the Empowered Committee. Some recommendations have already been implemented and some are in the process of implementation. Implementation of some recommendations is the responsibility of the respective Departments/Ministries/State Governments/Union Territories. The recommendations have wide social implication and as such need active help and support of voluntary agencies and community organisations.

The main recommendations implemented fully with suitable modification, wherever recommended, or

in the process of implementation are:—

Recommendation No. 1. Steps have been taken for mobilising public opinion and strengthening social effort against various social evils, e.g., polygamy, dowry, ostentatious expenditure and bringing awareness about the legal rights of women.

Recommendation No. 5. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 has been amended increasing the age of marriage of girls to 18 years, as recommended and offence made cognisable for certain purposes.

Recommendation No. 7. The Central Civil Services Conduct Rules, 1964 have been amended to prohibit government servants giving or taking dowry. The matter relating to the amendment of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 is before a Joint Committee of Parliament.

Recommendation No. 5(d) and 8. The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Act, 1976 provide for divorce by mutual consent, ground of "cruelty" and "desertion" for divorce and provides the right of a girl to repudiate her marriage as a child on attaining majority.

Recommendation No. 16. Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1980 was introduced in Lok Sabha and is before a Joint Committee of Parliament.

Recommendation No. 18. A Blue Print of Action Points and National Plan of Action for Women has been evolved which envisages legislative and administrative action as well as voluntary effort to promote the Education, Health, Family Planning and Nutrition, Employment, Social Welfare and Legal Status of Women and includes policy guidelines in these areas.

Recommendation No. 19. A cell has been set up in the Ministry of Labour to deal with Women's problems.

Recommendation No. 21. Factories (Amendment) Act, 1976 provides for establishment of a Creche where 30 women are employed as against for 50 earlier.

Recommendation No. 22. Permission to work can be granted to women upto 10 P.M. wherever practicable, provided it does not adversely effect the employment of women.

Recommendation No. 24. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, provides for:—

(a) payment of equal remuneration to men and women for the same work or work of similar nature,

(b) prevention of discrimination on ground of sex against women, in the matter of employment and matters connected therewith.

Recommendation No. 25. Programmes have been developed of vocational training in close relationship with industries and resources located in the area and of training programmes in production and market organisation to develop self-employment.

Recommendation Nos. 31-32. Provision made for non-formal education to men and women in the 15-25 age group. A special programme of Functional Literacy for adult women is being implemented in Integrated Child Development Services project blocks.

Recommendation Nos. 33, 34, 36 and 38. Steps taken for Co-Education in primary schools, Choice of Vocational and Technical Course at High School stage, a primary

school within walking distance of very child, developing a system of part-time education for those who cannot attend full-time school and multiple entry system for joining school.

Recommendation No. 46. Action taken for inclusion of women in important delegations, committees and commissions.

Recommendation No. 47. Steps taken for providing integrated maternity and child health services and promotion of research in the field of female disorders, and Mass campaign for family planning, so as to correct hereditary disorders and the sex of the child.

Recommendation No. 49. Besides a National Plan of Action for Women, which includes policy guidelines, the Sixth Five Year Plan 1980—85 includes a special chapter on Women and Development to provide special understanding of Women's problems, the use of Science and Technology for reducing drudgery and the strategy and direction for planned intervention for Women's Development.

Recommendation No. 51. A Women's Welfare and Development Bureau has been set up in the Ministry of Social Welfare for co-ordination of programmes for women, collection of information on matters relating to women and implementation of measures to improve the status of women under the guidance of the National Committee on Women.

Imposition of Statutory Price Control on certain essential Commodities

8814. SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the imposition of statutory

price control on such of the essential commodities whose producers are found to be indulging in exploiting market conditions to their advantage;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) when it is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY): (a) As per available information, there is at present no proposal under Government's consideration to bring some more essential commodities under statutory price control under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Non-formal Education

8815. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any schemes for providing non-formal education to those who have not attended any schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above scheme has been introduced in any of the States; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI MATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A centrally sponsored scheme of "Non-formal Part-time Education for Elementary Age-group Children" has been framed for implementation in nine educationally backward States. The details are given in the statement attached.