

कर लिया गया है। छठी योजना के इन कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य प्रारम्भिक शिक्षा (कक्षा 1-8) में 6-14 आयु वर्ग के बच्चों का शत-प्रतिशत दाखिला तथा 1989-90 तक 15-35 आयु-वर्ग के सभी व्यक्तियों में निरक्षरता का उन्मूलन करना है। ये नए 20 सूत्री कार्यक्रम का भी हिस्सा है।

छठी योजना के अन्तर्गत, 300 अथवा अधिक आवादी वाली 6.95 प्रतिशत व्यवहार्य बस्तियों के सम्बन्ध में एक किलोमीटर के अन्दर प्राथमिक स्कूली शिक्षा की सुविधाएं प्रदान करने के प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं। चौथे अखिल भारतीय शैक्षिक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार 93.05 प्रतिशत ऐसी बस्तियों में प्राथमिक स्कूली शिक्षा की सुविधाएं पहले ही प्रदान की जा चुकी हैं।

Scheme of conversion of narrow gauge Railway lines into broad gauge.

110. SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Ministry, in consultation with the Planning Commission, has drawn up a comprehensive scheme to convert all narrow gauge railway lines into broad gauge;

(b) whether the Railway Ministry is drawing a long term scheme for the conversion of all narrow gauge lines into broad gauge so that the Planning Commission and the Railway Ministry are able to provide funds within next two Five Year Plans for such conversions; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Basically Gauge Conversion proposals are considered only when it is discovered that the traffic likely to develop in future cannot be handled on the existing system. Considered from this angle Narrow Gauge (N.G.) sections are comparatively much less important to recommend themselves for conversion into Broad Gauge (B.G.). Further-more, for want of resources

even some of the busy Metre Gauge (M.G.) routes could not be accommodated for conversion into B.G. No scheme is, therefore, proposed at present, nor funds asked for conversion of N.G. into B.G.

Abolition of public School system:

111. SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to have a uniformity in Educational System throughout the country by abolishing public schools and raising the standard of education from primary to the University level;

(b) whether Government have invited the views of the State Governments in this regard, if not, whether Government propose to call the State Education Ministers' Conference alongwith the eminent educationists; and

(c) whether Government are aware that after studies in junior high schools the emphasis would be for education at all levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL):

(a) to (c). The 10-2 system of school education has been recommended *inter alia* with the objective of having a uniform system of education throughout the country. Various aspects of this system had been discussed in various national forums, including the Conferences of Education Ministers of States and Union Territories from time to time. However, the concept of standard of education is very comprehensive. Taken in its totality, there has been a definite thrust towards upgrading standards of education. The question of abolition of public schools was examined sometime back and the legal opinion tendered to the Government was to the effect that any action to abolish public schools would be violative of constitutional provisions.