

5. *Nutrition:*

The number of units rose from 138 to 302 units benefiting 5744 children.

6. *Working Women Hostel :*

Grant benefitting 42 beneficiaries is being given under this programme.

7. *Demonstration Projects (Balwadis)*  
20 Balwadi Units benefiting 600 children are functioning.

8. *Welfare Extension Projects (Urban)*

One project benefiting 32 children is functioning.

9. *Creches :*

The number of units rose from 6 to 185 during 1981-82 benefiting 4625 children.

10. *Family Welfare Programmes—'Motivational Camps for the Opinion Leaders'*

30 institutions were given grants for imparting training to 750 opinion leaders to equip them in Family Welfare Programmes.

**Primary stage instructions in mother tongue**

1171. PROF. RUP CHAND PAL : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions in mother tongue are not considered a suitable medium at the primary stage in some State till now; and

(b) if so, what are those States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Central Assistance to States for Open University System**

1172. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Will the minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Governments are permitting the State Governments to start open University system ; and

(b) if so, whether Government are giving any assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SEILA KAUL) : (a) and (b). No specific proposal from any State Government for establishment of an Open University has so far been received by the Government. The question of considering any such proposal or providing any assistance for the purpose does not arise.

**Assistance to State Transport Corporations**

1173. SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY :  
SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to give assistance to the State Transport Corporations to expand their activities as well as for improving their efficiency in order to cope with the expanding needs of the State Transport system ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SITA RAM KESARI) : (a) to (c). The proposal of setting up of a separate Road Transport Development Finance Corporation is under consideration in consultation with the concerned departments. The main idea behind the proposal is that such a specialised corporation could act as an agency to assist the State Transport Undertakings by loan finance to augment Transport services.