

An extensive programme of apprenticeship training for engineering graduates and diploma-holders has also been developed to equip them with practical experience for better employment. Over 10,000 training places are secured each year in private and public enterprises, government departments and other technical organisations. The programme of training extends over 12 months and each graduate is paid a stipend of Rs. 250 per month and diploma-holder Rs. 150 per month. To co-ordinate and supervise the programme of apprenticeship, four regional Boards of Apprenticeship training have been set up in cooperation with industry.

Girls' Education in Fourth Plan

1304. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THAN-

Statement

(Figures in Millions)

	Fourth Plan (69-74) Targets	68-69 Actual enrolment	69-70 Estimated achievement	70-71 Estimated achievement	71-72 Targets Provision
1. Classes I-V	27.33	20.57	21.61	22.97	24.80
2. Classes VI-VIII	5.91	3.51	3.82	4.19	4.64
3. Classes IX-XI	2.69	1.63	1.75	1.90	2.08

Closing Down of the Institution "The Calcutta Licenced Measures"

1305. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Institution named "The Calcutta Licensed Measures" owned and controlled by the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Bengal Chamber of Commerce, came into existence sometime in the late 19th century ;

(b) whether this institution, over and above checking of weights and shipment samples, has been acting as valuers and assessors for different institutions including Public Sector Industries and Nationalised banks;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether the said institution has recently been closed down and if so, on what grounds ;

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

(a) the target fixed for girls' education in Fourth Plan ; and

(b) the progress made in promoting girls' education in the first three years of the Plan period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAVA) : (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(d) whether his attention has also been drawn to the fact that if the institution is finally allowed to close down, it will not only create unemployment to many but will also mean big increase in the malpractices ; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand and output of Scientific Literature

1306. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for scientific literature in India is growing and there is a big gap

between the demand and output if so, the causes thereof ;

(b) the extent of current demand and indigenous output of scientific literatures ;

(c) whether the American Publishers have made use of the PL-480 funds to the tune of about 5 crores of rupees to subsidise heavily reprints of American Text Books ;

(d) whether the dominating position of American Text books in the Indian market has adversely affected the indigenous book industry in India ; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAVA) : (a) to (e). The demand for scientific literature in India has been growing continuously. The number of Universities was 29 in 1950-51, and went upto 83 in 1970-71. The number of colleges; both Undergraduate and Post-graduate, which was 548 in 1950-51 had risen to 2361 by the end of 1969. Similarly, there has been an increase in the number of engineering, medical, agricultural and veterinary colleges. The enrolments in these institutions have also been rising continuously. There is reason to believe that the indigenous production of scientific and technical books has not expanded at the same rate. Since educational authorities have liberty to prescribe as text-books or as supplementary books such books as they might consider useful and necessary, students by and large read books other than those prescribed as text-books or as supplementary readers. While, therefore, there is reason to believe that there is a gap between the demand and the indigenous output, its extent cannot be gauged precisely. Since standard educational materials are an indispensable tool for effective education, and as in the field of knowledge there are no frontiers, educational institutions have rightly been having recourse to good standard books from wherever they have been available. Considering that imported books are expensive and keeping in view the economic condition of the Indian students, the Government of India have

introduced schemes in collaboration with the Governments of U. K., U. S. A. and U. S. S. R. to make available standard educational materials from those countries at low prices for Indian University students. In all the three cases, the books required for Indian educational purposes, are selected by the Government of India in consultation with the concerned educational experts and these titles are communicated to the foreign governments concerned for making the books available for Indian students at low prices. Books from U. K. and U. S. S. R. are produced in those countries and marketed in India through the normal commercial channels. So far as books from U. S. A. are concerned, the selected books for which the necessary copyright permissions are available are reproduced in India by local publishers with a subsidy from the Government of U. S. from the P. L. 480 Funds. The books thereafter marketed through the normal commercial channels. The American books so reproduced are marketed approximately at one fifth or one sixth of the original American price. The programme for making available these books at low prices have been in operation from 1960 in the case of U. K., from 1961 in the case of U. S. A. and 1965 in the case of U. S. S. R. The expenditure incurred by the U. S. I. S. on behalf of the Government of U. S. on this programme from 1961 onwards has been U. S. \$8.9 millions approximately.

2. It may not be correct to say that the schemes for making available to Indian University students standard educational materials from abroad at low prices has adversely affected the indigenous book industry. The foreign books are not prescribed compulsorily, it being open to educational institutions to use such books as they may consider suitable. Nevertheless, to avoid any possibility of Indian authors and the indigenous book industry being placed at a disadvantage, the Government of India have initiated a number of schemes for further encouraging Indian writing, like :—

- (i) Grants have been assured to State Governments having Universities in their jurisdiction (Except Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh) upto Rs. 1 crore each during the current Plan period to enable them to bring out suitable Indian language books to be used either as textbooks or as

supplementary reading material, to be written in original or by translation of suitable foreign books.

- (ii) A scheme for subsidising suitable Indian books in English for use at the University level either as textbooks or as supplementary reading material been introduced and is operated through National Book Trust. The scheme envisages adequate subsidy to the selected publications in order to enable them to compete with standard educational materials from abroad.
- (iii) A Core Book Programme has also been worked out. Under this, the Central Government will take steps to bring out suitable books for use at the University level to be written either in English or in any of the Indian languages. The books written in the Indian languages will be translated into English so that these books could also be adopted by other Indian Universities not using the said Indian language. It is expected that these books will be of such standard and quality that they can be used through the country.
- (iv) Grants have been made available to the University Grants Commission for creating a number of fellowships for selected persons to enable them to write good books in original or to translate approved foreign books.

In addition to the above, fiscal concessions have also been offered to new publishers to help them in their publishing programmes.

Merger of Companies

1307. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of vertical and horizontal merger of companies allowed by Government during the last three years ;
- (b) the details of each case of merger ; and
- (c) the policy of Government in regard to merger, both vertical and horizontal ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY):

(a) and (b). During the last 3 years the Central Government has approved two mergers, one under the Companies Act, 1956 and another under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969. A case of merger under Section 396 (1) and (2) of the Companies Act, 1956 was approved by the Company Law Board whereby M/s. Ashoka Hotels Ltd. and M/s. Janpath Hotels Ltd. merged with M/s. India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. The Central Government has also approved merger of two subsidiary companies, namely, M/s. Warrior (India) Ltd. and M/s. Auto Accessories (India) Ltd. with their holding company M/s. Forbes, Forbes Campbell & Co. Ltd. under Section 23 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

(c) Section 28 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act specifies matters which are to be considered by the Central Government in exercising its powers while according approvals under the Act including schemes of mergers under Section 23 of the Act whether vertical or horizontal. Similarly, the Central Government has to be satisfied while exercising powers under Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956 that the merger, whether vertical or horizontal, is in the public interest.

Volume of Export and Import Trade in Cochin Port

1308. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the volume of export and import trade in Cochin Port is declining ;
- (b) if so, the main reasons for the same ; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to improve the same ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (b). The traffic handled by the Port of Cochin during the last three years showed only marginal fluctuation but there was no marked decline. Such fluctuations in traffic occur from time to time. The traffic handled by the Port would