

however been received from the West Bengal College and University Teachers' Association

(b) One of the most unfortunate consequences of the violent atrocities committed by the Pakistan Army in Bangla Desh has been a large exodus of economists, university professors, college and school teachers, artists and other intellectuals from Bangla Desh to India. Government is endeavouring to collect the number of such intellectuals and the respective areas of their competence. According to the information furnished by the Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University is on 21-5-1971 90 University teachers and 700 college teachers had applied to him for employment here. Many of these teachers and professors have expressed a desire to work in fields relevant to the future of their country. This matter is under the consideration of the Government and no final decision has been taken. It is not a question of giving these teachers and professors employment in India or maintenance allowance but of finding out avenues for useful work.

Free and Compulsory Education for Children

777. SHRI K. S CHAVDA
 PROF. S. L SAKSENA

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether free and compulsory Education is provided to all children upto 14 years of age in the Union Territories and States ; and

(b) if not, by which year Central and State Governments will be able to provide free and compulsory education to all children upto 14 years of age in the Union Territories and in the States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN-MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI D. P YADAVA)

(a) NO, Sir. The present position is indicated in the annexure

(b) As can be seen from the information in the Annexure, as far as Union Territories are concerned, education at the primary level is free. But it has not become universal due to economic and social causes except in the Union Territories of Delhi, Manipur and I.M.A. Islands where enrolment of 100% has been achieved in the age group 6-11. Due to lack of finances sufficient number of teachers have not been appointed nor school rooms constructed to meet the demand of increased enrolment. Efforts are being made to locate additional financial resources.

As regards the States, it will be seen that all States have Compulsory Primary Education Acts except Nagaland and Himachal Pradesh. The latter State had recently repealed an existing legislation as it was found of much use. Due to financial reasons all States have not been able to provide free education. Even in States which have got Compulsory Primary Education Acts and provide free education, enrolment has not become universal except in the case of a few States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu etc. The underlying social and economic causes will have to be removed and additional financial resources found before universal, compulsory education can be expected. No specific date for this purpose can be given.

Annexure

All States except Nagaland and Himachal Pradesh have compulsory primary Education Acts. Himachal Pradesh repealed the Act recently. As for Union Territories

only Delhi, A. & N. Island and Chandigarh have necessary legislation.

2. Education is free in Classes I-VII/VIII (age group 6-14) in the following States and Union Territories :-

1. Andhra Pradesh.
2. Gujarat.
3. Haryana.
4. Himachal Pradesh.
5. Jammu and Kashmir.
6. Kerala.
7. Madhya Pradesh.
8. Maharashtra.
9. Mysore.
10. Nagaland.
11. Orissa.
12. Punjab.
12. Rajasthan.
14. Tamil Nadu.
15. All Union Territories.

3. Girls receive free education in classes I-VII/VIII in the following States :-

1. Assam and Meghalaya.
2. Bihar.
3. Uttar Pradesh.
4. West Bengal.

4. Boys receive free education in classes I-V (age group 6-11) in the following States :-

1. Assam and Meghalaya.
2. Bihar.
3. Uttar Pradesh.
4. West Bengal (in rural areas and selected towns only).

Literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

778. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA :
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
RERJDDY :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of literacy in India and among scheduled castes and scheduled tribes separately as per latest census in the country ; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to increase the literacy in the country and among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP MANTRI) (SHRI D. P. YADAVA). (a) According to 'Census of India' 1971—"Provisional Population Totals", literacy rate in India is as below :-

Literacy Rate : Total : 29.35%

Male : 39.49%

Females : 18.47%