

(b) Kendriya Vidyalayas are primarily intended for the children of transferable Central Government employees including Defence Personnel. The rules of admission to these Vidyalayas provide for preference being given to the children of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes employees according to the following categories of priority viz. Children of transferable defence personnel, transferable Central Government employees; and of officers of All-India Services and autonomous bodies, subject to their qualifying the admission test. Besides, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students are also exempted from payment of tuition fees.

c. As regards Public Schools, under the Government of India Scheme of Scholarships in approved Residential Schools 15 per cent scholarships are reserved for Scheduled Caste and 5 per cent scholarships for Scheduled Tribes students

Free Education upto VIII Class in State

7574 SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state the names of the States in which Government have proposed not to charge fee from students upto VII or VIIIth Classes during the Fifth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): According to the available information, for children in the age group 6-11 is free in all States except some urban areas of West Bengal. By the end of the Fifth Plan West Bengal is expected to extend free education facilities for this age group in all urban areas.

2 In the age group 11-14 education is free in all States except Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. Girls in the age-group 11-14 are provided free education even in these three States. Boys of certain categories such as scheduled castes/scheduled tribes also get free education. These three States are expected to introduce free education for all boys in this age group during the Fifth Plan, subject to availability of funds.

Agriculture in Orissa during Fifth Plan and Credit Facilities to Tribals in that State

7576 SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations sent by the Orissa Government to the Centre to strengthen the agriculture in that State; and

(b) the steps taken by the Centre and State Government to provide the agricultural credit to the tribal and poor farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) No recommendations as such were sent by the Government of Orissa for strengthening agriculture in that State. The State Government, however, furnished to the Government of India during 1973 Draft Fifth Five Year Plan proposals for the development of agriculture and allied sectors of the State. The proposals consist of (1) Agricultural Programmes which include agricultural research and education, crop husbandry, land reforms, minor irrigation, soil conservation, command area

development, animal husbandry and dairy, fisheries, forestry and agricultural marketing, storage and warehousing; (2) Allied Programmes which include cooperation, community development, panchayats, agricultural credit and special programme for rural development and (3) Other Allied Programmes which include irrigation and flood control.

These proposals were carefully considered by the Government of India and a total allocation of Rs. 179 crores have been tentatively approved for strengthening agriculture and allied programmes of the State during the Fifth Plan period.

(b) The steps taken to facilitate greater flow of agricultural credit to the tribal and poor farmers are indicated below:

1. Special concessions like liberalised share capital requirements, loans without insisting on mortgage security, lower margins and longer repayment schedules etc. which were introduced during the 4th Plan period will continue to be pursued during the 5th Plan also.
2. The credit institutions have accepted that agricultural credit should be production-oriented rather than security-oriented.
3. Medium term cooperative loans will be given without security of land up to Rs. 2,000/- for subsidiary occupations like dairy, poultry farming to agriculturists where marketing arrangements are adequately provided and upto Rs. 3,500 for minor irrigation scheme.
4. Instructions have also been issued to enable primary agricultural credit societies to advance medium term loans for purchase of tractors and power tillers in excess of Rs. 3,500/- without insisting on the mortgage of land or charge of land under certain conditions.
5. Loans for agriculture will be available in an increasing measure to groups of farmers who cannot afford to take such loans on an individual basis.
6. 100 per cent refinance facility would be provided by the Agricultural Refinance Corporation to the schemes prepared by SFDA/MFAL Agencies.
7. Loan eligibility would be determined with reference to incremental returns expected by adoption of the principle of the post development value of land for purpose of security against loans.
8. The Credit Guarantee Corporation that has been set up would provide coverage to commercial banks' loans for agriculture to the extent of 75 per cent of the losses in respect of loans upto certain specified limits.
9. The Central Cooperative Banks are required to show at least 20 per cent of the outstandings of borrowings from the State Cooperative Banks as covered by the outstandings of loans to societies against small farmers/marginal farmers economically weak farmers.
10. The commercial banks are also adopting a scheme of differential rate of interest for benefiting the weaker sections which include small farmers.
11. The principle of giving crop loans without security has been accepted by both cooperatives and commercial banks.
12. Suitable legislative amendments have been made to remove impediments in the way of refinancing of loans to agricultural labourers for subsidi-

ary occupations and to enable the Reserve Bank of India to accommodate the credit requirements of schemes for the development of fisheries etc.

13. The State Governments concerned are taking steps to revitalise and restructure the cooperative credit institutions in the Tribal Development Agency Project areas so that the flow of credit reaches the tribals on easy terms.

14. For implementation of the various economic development programmes in the Tribal Development Agency Project areas subsidy at the rate of 50 per cent to 100 per cent is provided out of agency funds which indirectly reduces the credit needs of the tribals.

Loan Assistance to Construct Bridge Over Bansadha on Gunupur Rayagada Road (Orissa)

7577. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India received recommendation and letter from the Government of Orissa requesting to give loan assistance by the Centre to construct a bridge over river Bansadha on Gunupur Rayagada Road under "inter-state economic importance" in Fifth Plan;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) the names of bridges and roads recommended by the Government of Orissa for loan assistance for Fifth Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB

KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Presumably, the Member is having in mind the Vansdhara bridge near Gunupur on Parlakhemondi-Gunupur road. This is one of the 31 projects submitted by the Government of Orissa for assistance under the Central aid programme of State Roads of inter-State or economic importance in the 5th Plan.

(b) As the Fifth Five-Year Plan is still in preparatory stage, it is not possible to indicate at present the extent to which any road/bridge project could be included in the Fifth Five-Year Plan within the very limited provision likely to be available for the purpose in the 5th Plan.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-677/74].

Cooperatives in Adivasi areas of Tripura

7578 SHRI BIREN DUTTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether no viable cooperative is set up in Adivasi area of Tripura;

(b) whether misuse of large amounts in Adivasi areas has caused difficulties in procuring fresh loan through cooperative; and

(c) whether any special provision for cooperative in Adivasi areas is contemplated in Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) A provision of Rs. 3 crores has been made under the Central Sector for Special Cooperatives in Tribal areas. State-wise allocation has not