

them; it also purchases in bulk, publications brought out and concerning Sanskrit literature and gives regular grant-in-aid to Sanskrit journals with a view to improve their quality and content.

(iv) Government of India also assist State Governments in the latter's programmes for promotion of Sanskrit. This assistance is given under a Centrally sponsored scheme Eminent Sanskrit scholars, who are in indigent circumstances, are given financial assistance up to Rs 1800 per year keeping in view their other sources of income. The State Governments are also given cent per cent assistance towards modernisation of Sanskrit Pathshalas and for providing facilities for teaching Sanskrit in High and Higher Secondary schools wherever such facilities are not available.

(v) The Government has established an autonomous organisation called the Eashtriyā Sanskrit Samāhān which controls and administers five Sanskrit Vidyapeeths which are being developed as centres of higher learning and research in the field of Sanskrit.

(vi) The Government has also been encouraging oratorical talents among the products of Sanskrit Pathshalas by organising an all-India Sanskrit Elocution Contest in various branches of Sanskrit learning.

Apart from the above schemes which have been in operation for some time, the Government has introduced a new scheme during the current year. This scheme provides for establishment of Adarsh Sanskrit Pathshalas by developing selected institutions in each State as ideal institutions among the traditional Pathshalas. Such selected institutions will be eligible for 95 per cent maintenance grant and 50 to 60 per cent grant for non-recurring purposes.

Further details with regard to the measures taken for promotion of Sanskrit are available in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare for 1975-76, which has been circulated among the Members of the Lok Sabha.

Farmers' Service Societies for providing Rural Credit

1959 SHRI Y ESWARA REDDY:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the State Governments were asked to set up at least one farmers' service society in each district for providing rural credit, and

(b) if so the number of service societies set up in each State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) It was suggested to the State Governments in August 1975 that 'it is desirable that farmers' Service Societies which provide integrated credit services and supplies are organised in all the districts in the country' and to begin with at least one FSS should be set-up in the districts covered by special programmes of Small Farmers Development Agency Drought Prone Areas Programme and the Command Area Development Programme. State Governments have also been requested to set up at least 20 FSS within the area of operation of each Regional Rural Bank.

(b) 211 Farmers' Service Societies have been set-up in various States so far. State-wise number of FSS set-up is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT-11900/76]