

**Admission of handicapped children in Central Schools,**

1985. **SHRI VANKY GEORGE:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare have received any representation regarding the admission of handicapped children in the Central schools which are housed in single storey buildings;

(b) the number of such children admitted in the Central schools during the current academic year; and

(c) the number of children who have applied but not got the admission in the Central schools?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM):** (a) Only one representation has been received.

(b) The information is not readily available and will be collected and placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The Kendriya Vidyalayas do not keep a record of the applications made by handicapped children for admission to the schools.

**Preservation of Fauna and Flora in Sikkim**

1986. **SHRI S. K. RAI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have identified and declared sanctuaries to preserve the Sikkim State's fauna and flora;

(b) whether Central Government are aware that Sikkim is richly endowed with variety of 'orchards' and 'Rhododendrons'; and

(c) if so, the main features of scheme of Government for develop-

ment of forestry as a part of its agricultural strategy?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL):** (a) No, Sir. However, the State Government have identified an area in North-East Sikkim for constituting the Kuchenjunga National Park. Three orchid sanctuaries have also been created by the State Government in addition to Rhododendron and a high altitude preserve garden for preservation of alpine flora.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government's schemes for development of forestry include raising plantations in reserve forests to the extent of 500 hectares per annum, rehabilitation of waste lands and degraded village forests to the extent of 280 hectares during the current year under the Social Forestry scheme, besides afforestation over 200 hectares under the Soil and Water Conservation scheme. In addition, to solve the problem of fuelwood scarcity, fuelwood plantations are being undertaken at the rate of 180 hectares per annum near Gangtok to work on 12-Years' rotation. Mapping of the Sikkim forests is in progress and pre-investment survey of forest resources will start from October this year.

**Plant protection organisation in Sikkim**

1987. **SHRI S. K. RAI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Sikkim has requested the Central Government for establishment of a Plant Protection Organisation in that State to tackle the pest and disease problem of crops; and

(b) whether the State Government has also suggested for suitable legislation for soil conservation and land use?