

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The proposal of setting up Regional Coaching Centres is in the formative stage.

(b) Not yet known.

(c) A copy of the Scheme is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 87].

Deposits in Banks

969. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the aggregate deposits with the Scheduled banks in 1961;

(b) whether they show expansion in the deposits; and

(c) if so, the factors that contributed to this development?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) As on the last Friday of December, 1961, the aggregate deposits with the scheduled banks, excluding P.L. 480 and P.L. 665 deposits, stood at Rs. 1,757.1 crores.

(b) As compared to the deposits of Rs. 1577.2 crores in December, 1960, there is an increase of Rs. 180 crores.

(c) The steps taken by Government for promoting the compulsory merger of sub-standard banks with sound institutions and the establishment of the Deposit Insurance Corporation have resulted in an increase in confidence in the banking system, leading to the growth of deposits. Among the other main contributory factors may be mentioned the higher interest rates offered by the banks, the increased savings generated by the plans and the gradual spread of the banking habit among the people.

Central Fuel Research Institute

970. { Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Fuel Research Institute at Dhanbad has developed a new fertiliser from coal which is claimed in some respects to be superior to the conventional fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details of the process and cost of manufacture and the results of field tests; and

(c) what are Government's plans for its propagation and manufacture on a commercial scale?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The Institute has developed a fertilizer from coal.

(b) There are two processes which are as follows: (i) oxidising coal in a fluidised bed in air stream of 2000C and subsequent treatment with ammoniacal liquor; and (ii) simultaneous oxidation and ammoniation of coal in a fluidization column at 3000C in a mixture of air and ammonia.

Cost of production has not been worked out yet. Preliminary field trials have been encouraging.

(c) Large scale field trials and pilot plant production experiments will have to be carried out before this is considered.

Students Sent Abroad for Studies

971. Shri Ram Sewak: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students who went to the European countries for studies in different subjects in 1961-62; and

(b) the number of the Scheduled Castes students among them?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Four under various Schemes administered by the Ministry of Education.

(b) None.