

USE OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN STATES

5355. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been taken so far to popularise the use of the language of the Union as medium in Government Offices in the Centrally Administered States:

(b) the States which are not doing well in this direction and the steps Government propose to take to bring about uniformity in the administration of the Centrally administered States in so far as the use of the language of the Union is concerned; and

(c) whether any amount is spent and earmarked to be spent in the Centrally administered States situated in regions where the language of the people is not Hindi for popularisation and teaching of Hindi and if so, the amount earmarked yearly for this purpose in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Under Section 34 of the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, the Legislative Assembly of a Union Territory may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the Union Territory or Hindi as the official language of the Union Territory. As such, the language policy of the Union is not applicable to the Union Territories having legislatures of their own.

(b) Of the Union Territories which do not have legislatures of their own, Delhi has already decided to increase the use of Hindi for their official purposes. As local conditions permit, other Union Territories would also take steps to implement the Central Government's policy regarding the official language.

(c) The funds provided by the Union Territory administrations, situated in non-Hindi areas, for pro-

pagation of Hindi during the year 1968-69 are as under.

	Rs.
1. Andaman & Nicobar Island	12,500
2. Manipur	15,000
3. Tripura	4,47,000
4. Pondicherry	3,000

These figures do not include expenditure incurred on teaching Hindi in Schools.

In addition, the Ministry of Education have also been giving grants directly to voluntary organizations in these areas for propagation of Hindi.

NATIONALISATION OF TEXT BOOKS

5356. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps under way towards the nationalisation of the text books in the Centrally administered States and areas;

(b) whether the text books in the Centrally administered States and Areas are uniform and similar and if so, whether the publishing agencies are the same or different; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to achieve uniformity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTRE AT ROORKEE

5357. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Structural Engineering Research Centre at Roorkee is functioning during the last five years satisfactorily;

(b) whether it is a fact that Tata Steel experts in collaboration with