

(c) whether it has been pointed out that Rs. 2.50 crores yearly are wasted at the primary stage; and

(d) what steps have been suggested in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI SHER SINGH):** (a) and (b). The National Seminar on Wastage and Stagnation at the primary stage which was attended by Education officers representing State Governments discussed the action programme to be undertaken in the Fourth Plan to reduce the extent of wastage and stagnation at this stage.

(c) No, Sir. The Seminar highlighted the huge waste that occurs at the primary stage on account of drop-outs and stagnation, but did not quantify its extent in monetary terms.

(d) An action programme as recommended by the Seminar has been communicated to the States for necessary action on the Fourth Plan. Provision has also been made in the State plans to implement the programmes recommended by the Seminar.

**Bomb Burst at Agarpara**

4395. **SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:**  
**SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6809 on the 30th August, 1968 and state:

(a) whether the report of inquiry in respect of a bomb burst at Agarpara in 24-Parganas, District, West Bengal on the 21st June, 1968, has since been received by Government;

(b) if so, the total number of persons died and injured; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) to (c). According to information furnished by the State Government a bomb exploded on June 21, 1968 at about 8.40 a.m. in a small field within the compound of Agarpara Kutir Shilpa Pratisthan when three boys tried to break open a ball like substance. Two boys died instantaneously on the spot and one succumbed to his injuries in the hospital. Inquiries have failed to reveal as to how and from where the boys had procured the bomb. The remnants of the exploded bombs were sent to the Inspector of Explosives.

**Assistance to Voluntary Organizations in Orissa for Promotion of Hindi**

4396. **SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of assistance which has been given to voluntary organisations in Orissa for promotion of Hindi in different ways; and

(b) the names and locations of the voluntary institutions and the amounts given during 1967-68 and 1968-69?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI SHER SINGH):** (a) Financial assistance amounting to Rs. 86,730/—was given to voluntary Hindi organisations in Orissa for promotion of Hindi during the last three years (1965-66 to 1967-68).

(b) During 1967-68, grants were given to the following institutions as per details shown against each:—

Name & address	Purpose for which given	Amount
1. Utkal Prantiya Rashtrabhasha Prachar Sabha, Rashtrabhasha Road, Cuttack—1.	Running of typewriting classes, Hindi teaching centre, Hindi libraries and conducting refresher courses and training camp for Hindi teachers/pracharaks.	Rs. 16,290/—
2. Hindi Rashtrabhasha, Paribhad, Jagannath Dham, At-Nilima House, Puri.	Running of part-time Hindi teaching centres.	Rs. 11,250/—