

Group as adopted by the National Shipping Board ;

(b) if so, the decisions taken thereon ;

(c) if not, when the examination is likely to be completed ; and

(d) the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHURAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). The report of the Study Group on Coastal Shipping of the National Shipping Board has been examined by Government. It was however felt that a reassessment of the traffic availability should be made before any final decision is taken in the matter. This reassessment is being done now and a final decision is expected to be taken shortly.

Cultural, Technical and Scientific Cooperation with France

827. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL ;
SHRI P.M. SAYEED ;
SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU ;
SHRI R. BARUA ;
SHRI N. R. LASKAR ;

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Governments of India and France have jointly drawn a programme for cultural, technical and scientific cooperation in May, 1969 ;

(b) If so, the main features thereof ;

(c) the duration of the programme ;

(d) whether details regarding the sending of experts in various fields to that country under this programme have been worked out by Government and if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred by Government of India under this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V.K.R.V. RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The programme lays down the framework of cooperation—its purpose, fields and number of persons and materials to be exchanged in the fields of humanity, science,

technology, language and literature, art and culture, radio and television, films, scholarships, health and agriculture. Copies of the Programme are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Two years *i.e.* 1969—71.

(d) Details are being decided with the concerned French authorities by the respective implementing agencies in India.

(e) As details of some of the items, which are of general nature, are still to be worked out, it is not possible to give an estimate of expenditure at this stage.

State Education Secretaries Conference

828. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :
SHRI P. M. SAYEED ;
SHRI HEM RAJ ;
SHRI RABI RAY ;
SHRI ESWARA REDDY ;
SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA ;
SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI
KHAN ;
SHRI P. K. DEO ;
SHRI H. AJMAL KHAN ;
SHRI R. V. NAIK ;
SHRI MEETHA LAL MEENA ;
SHRI R. K. AMIN ;
SHRI M. SUDARSANAM ;
SHRI D. R. PARMAR ;

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Education Secretaries held a Conference in May, 1969 ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Conference ;

(c) the reaction of Government to these recommendations with particular reference to the suggestions made regarding the levy of Education Cess ; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to implement the recommendations which have been accepted by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V.K.R.V. RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following were the main recommendations :

- (1) The State Governments will take steps to integrate the various types of institutions like the State Institute of Science Education, State Institute of Education, Evaluation Unit, Vocational & Guidance Bureau, etc. set up during the last few years under the State Institute of Education or under the State Council of Educational Research & Training under the guidance of sufficiently able officers. This process of integrating these institutions should be completed during the next three or four months.
- (2) State Governments should take up training programmes, through appropriate institutions, for the administrative and supervisory staff below the district level.
- (3) Officers of the State Governments should be deputed to the Asian Institute for short periods of three to five months to work on certain studies relating to administrative matters.
- (4) The State representatives agreed in the field of teacher education :
 - (a) To find counterpart funds in order to lift the assistance to be made available by the University Grants Commission.
 - (b) To take necessary steps to improve and consolidate Teacher Training Institutes for primary teachers.
- (5) The State Government would make available, before the end of June, 1969, their finalised Fourth Plan proposals alongwith details of targets with financial provisions. The Ministry of Education and Youth Services would then prepare a document giving all the essentials details of the Fourth Plan proposals and circulate it to the State Governments.
- (6) In view of the large variations in the practices followed in mobil-

sing resources for educational development programmes and also the extent and the quantum of resources becoming available to the State Governments through such measures, it was decided that a special Group may go into the problem in detail and submit a report giving concrete proposals about the mobilisation of resources for educational development programmes. The report should be placed before the meeting of the CABE in September, 1969.

- (7) There was an urgent need to take up pilot projects covering the fields of educational imbalances at the block or district levels, wastage and stagnation at the primary stage, girls' education, education of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, vocationalisation of education, work experience and adult literacy. It was decided to set up a Special Group which would de-limit the areas, lay down the nature and scope of the pilot projects, indicate the criteria for the selection of pilot projects or areas in States and also suggest a specific number of projects to be selected. The report of this Group should be ready within two months and then circulated to the States and Union Territories. It should be put up before the CABE and thereafter the projects will be launched during the current year.
- (8) A few selected districts should be taken up in each State where the concept of district planning, inclusive of the integration of education with economic planning, should be worked out in detail.
- (9) Short-term visits of officers to the States, to study the successful experiences in such States, in the different fields of education e.g. School improvement programme in Madras, production of text books in Bihar, field try outs in Maharashtra, work experience programme in Rajasthan and adult literacy programme in Maharashtra

should be encouraged. This programme should be worked out by the Ministry of Education on Youth Services.

- (10) A small Advisory Committee for the Indian programme of the Asian Institute, to assist the Institute in drawing up programmes for organising various types of inservice courses for educational administrators at the district and headquarters levels and in taking up various field and case studies should be set up. The composition of the Committee was left to be decided by the Chairman.

- (11) It was emphasised that National Service Projects, to begin with, should be taken up in selected areas and on pilot basis. The need for collaboration between the Centre, State Governments and Universities was emphasised. It was agreed that a communication would issue clarifying the pattern of assistance for implementing the scheme.

- (12) Designation of year 1970 by the United Nations as International Education Year: The State Governments agreed to set up Co-ordination Bodies for implementing the programmes relating to the International Education Year in terms of the aims and objectives set out in the note. The Central Government would also write to the State Governments about the broad outline of the work and the resources likely to be available from UNESCO for implementing the programmes.

- (13) UNICEF assistance for Science Education Programme: The Conference was informed that a decision had been taken that the UNICEF equipment would be in addition to the Central assistance to the States.

- (14) The work done in the field of institutional planning by the States

should be evaluated by the Asian Institute of Educational Planning in 1970.

- (15) The Asian Institute of Educational Planning and Administration would undertake a comparative study of the broad contours of educational administration in the States especially in terms of higher level supervision, structure, manning, recruitment policies, service conditions, personnel administration, training programmes, exchange between teaching and administrative wings, etc.

- (16) Some selected areas in the State Education Department should be studied by experts in management with a view to helping the State Governments in rationalising the existing administrative procedures and priorities. The details should be worked out by the Asian Institute of Educational Planning and Administration in consultation with its Advisory Committee.

(c) The first recommendation has to be implemented by the State Governments. They are being expedited. As regards serial nos. 6 and 7, Groups have been appointed and their reports are expected by the end of July. As regards item 11, a Committee has been appointed to select the areas for the pilot projects. No specific recommendation regarding the levy of Education Cess has been made by the Conference.

(d) The State Governments are likely to implement recommendation (1) by the end of the current year. The pilot projects referred to in recommendations (6) and (7) are likely to be established during the current year. As regards recommendation (11), action will be taken to place the Report of the Group before the Central Advisory Board of Education at its meeting to be held in September 1969.

As regard other items, the State Governments and the Asian Institute of Educational Planning and Administration have to take action. They are being expedited.