

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. A Conference on the Methodology of Teaching Indian Languages as Second Languages in Secondary Schools was held in New Delhi from 11th to 13th November, 1968. Recently on 17th July, 1969, the Government of India established a Central Institute of Indian Languages for the development of Indian languages. One of the Institute's functions will be to undertake formulation of techniques for simplifying the teaching of languages, reducing the time element involved in learning different languages and preparing basic vocabularies for the various languages.

(b) and (c). The recommendations of the Conference on the Methodology of Teaching Indian Languages relate to the development of suitable courses, training of teachers, preparation of adequate materials required for the courses and research in the context of objectives spelt out in teaching languages as second languages at the school level. Further action on these recommendations is being taken in consultation with the State Governments. Kendriya Hindi Shikshana Mandala, Agra. Central Institute of English, Hyderabad and the State Institutes of Languages. The Ministry has forwarded the relevant recommendations to these organisations for formulating concrete proposals for developing programmes of action

Setting up of a Hotel at Badrinath

5387. SHRI D. C. SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a hotel at Badrinath to attract foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has sought any help in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c). The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has plans to set up a modest 40 bed hotel at Badrinath to cater to the needs of pilgrims to this area. Funds for this are to be provided by the Government of India as a part of the border road area development scheme.

Charges against Shankaracharya of Puri

5388. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Brahmachari Santi Prakash, former Secretary to the Shankaracharya of Puri has levelled grave charges against Shri Chandra Shekhar Sastri, the present Shankaracharya of Puri;

(b) if so, the main points of the charges levelled and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the Endowment Commissioner has made an audit and enquiry into the accounts of the Puri Math and, if so, with what results; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that funds collected by the present Shankaracharya during his tours are deposited in Banks in Delhi, Bombay, Nagpur, Allahabad and other places and not brought to the Math?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d). The required information is being collected from the Government of Orissa who are concerned with the subject matter in view of the entry at Srl. No. 28 in the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. On receipt of the information it will be laid on the Table of the House.