

No project has been accorded Investment Clearance by Planning Commission in the past three months.

(b) One Medium Irrigation Project viz. Sidhata Irrigation Project is pending for clearance.

[English]

Development of Universities/Colleges

828. SHRI MURLIDHAR JENA:

SHRI AJOY. MUKHOPADHYAY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Universities/Colleges which received grants from UGC during the Eighth Plan period, University-wise/College-wise; and

(b) the number of Universities/Colleges sanctioned grants as per their demands, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Lower Suktel Irrigation Project

829. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to execute the Lower Suktel Irrigation Project;

(b) whether it is likely to be implemented during 1997-98;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the other medium and major irrigation projects in Western Orissa proposed to be executed by 2000 AD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The details of the other major & medium irrigation projects in western Orissa proposed for execution during IX Plan (1997-2002) are as under:

S.No.	Name of Project	District benefited
1	2	3
(A) Major		
1.	Ib Phase-I	Sundergarh

	1	2	3
2.	Ong Dam		Bargarh
3.	Lower Suktel		Bolangir
4.	Lower Indra		Nowarangpur
5.	Annl Uttei		Kalahandi
(B) Medium			
1.	Ret		Kalahandi

Compulsory Education Bill

830. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a Bill for the compulsory education;

(b) if so, whether the expert committee appointed in this regard has already submitted its recommendations;

(c) whether the views of all the representatives of the State Governments and experts have been taken into consideration in this regard;

(d) if so, the time by which the Bill is likely to be introduced;

(e) the main features of the proposed Bill;

(f) whether the Delhi High Court in its latest judgement has urged the Government to introduce a legislation banning the commercialisation of education system in the country; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) Based on the report of the Committee of State Education Ministers, set-up under the Chairmanship of Shri Muhi Ram Saikia, Minister of State for Human Resource Development (Education) to examine legal financial, academic and administrative implications of the proposal to make elementary education a Fundamental Right, the Constitution (Eighty-third, Amendment) Bill, 1997, has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997. The salient features of the Bill, as introduced in the Rajya Sabha, are as under:

(i) The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all citizens of the age of 6 to 14 years.

(ii) The State shall not make any law for free and compulsory education in relation to educational institutions not maintained by the State or not receiving aid out of State funds;