

(b) to (f). Various possibilities w.r.t utilisation of land as per the land-use assigned to the plots in the Zonal Plan are being explored. In the process of redevelopment, eligible squatters will also be rehabilitated at the designated sites meant for such rehabilitation

[English]

Subsidiaries of South Eastern Coalfields Limited

471 SHRI K PRADHANI Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the number of industries in Bilaspur division which have been accorded the status of the subsidiaries for supply of material to South Eastern Coalfields Limited alongwith the number out of them, in production at present.

(b) the amount spent annually by South Eastern Coalfields Limited for making purchases alongwith the value of order out of the same placed with the subsidiaries in Bilaspur.

(c) whether the South Eastern Coalfields Limited is making full use of the capacity of subsidiaries situated in Bilaspur, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) (a) 93 Nos of industrial units of Bilaspur Division have been accorded ancillary status by South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Out of them, 49 units are in active production at present

(b) The value of purchase by SECL during the year 1995-96 was around Rs 364 crores (Provisional). Out of this the value of orders placed on the ancillary industries was Rs 12.85 crores

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) (i) SECL has endeavoured that full capacity of its ancillary units are gainfully utilised. Ancillary units are also being encouraged to develop additional items so that they can be considered for granting ancillary status for these items which will enhance utilisation of their rated capacity

(ii) For making full use of the capacity of the ancillary units, various seminars, exhibitions and plant level Advisory Committee meetings are regularly organised which provide a forum for discussions of various problems and sorting them out

(iii) Entrepreneurs are also encouraged to develop one or more products for which SECL is providing them drawings, material composition and other technical service back up alongwith assured market

Lodging Arrangement for Haj Pilgrims

472. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether expenditure on lodging and boarding arrangement for Haj pilgrims in the country as well as in Makkah is borne by the Government,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of officials/non officials who are entitled to occupy such arrangement on the Government expenses,

(d) whether there is ceiling on such number

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) (a) and (b) No Sir Government of India does not incur any expenditure for boarding or lodging of Haj Pilgrims in Makkah. According to Saudi Government regulations, all the Haj pilgrims are required to have their accommodation arranged prior to their arrival under the Reserved Accommodation Scheme (RAS). With the assistance of CGI, Jeddah, the Central Haj Committee (CHC) undertakes booking of accommodation units in Makkah and Madina for the Indian pilgrims who go for Haj under the arrangements made by the CHC. The pilgrims pay for their accommodation and also spend on boarding from their own resources

While in transit at the embarkation points in India before going on Haj, many pilgrims avail of the transit facilities organised by individuals and the State Haj Committee

(c) to (f) Government of India does not sponsor any official/non-official for Haj at its expenses. However, for the assistance of the Indian pilgrims in Saudi Arabia, the Government sends administrative and medical staff on short duration temporary duty. For Haj-1996, when more than 30,000 pilgrims proceeded for Haj under the arrangements made through the Haj Committee, an administrative contingent of 100 Haj Assistants and Assistant Haj Officers, 100 doctors and 100 para-medics was deputed to Saudi Arabia. While there is no ceiling on the number of the administrative/medical staff, the strength of the contingent is decided by the Government on the basis of perceived needs and requirements. The administrative and medical staff are provided air passage, camp-like lodging in Saudi Arabia and are paid foreign allowance as admissible

In addition, a Haj Goodwill Delegation consisting of Eminent persons from different walks of life is

sent of Saudi Arabia in order to interact with Saudi officials, and similar delegations from other countries. The Delegation observes the arrangements for the pilgrims and submits an independent report to Government on its return. The Goodwill Delegation for Haj 1996 consisted of 14 members and was led by the Ambassador of India in Riyadh. The members of the delegation are provided air passage, hotel accommodation, local transport and daily allowance as admissible.

Child Malnutrition

473 SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware that child malnutrition is highest in India

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor

(c) the proportion of the malnutrition of child in India aged below five years on percentage basis comparing the same with other developing countries particularly in Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Ceylon and Pakistan; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce and ultimately eliminate cases of malnutrition in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that the child malnutrition is still quite high in India but not the highest. There has, however, been a significant decline in moderate and severe malnutrition among children during the last two decades.

(b) The severe (Grade III) malnutrition has declined from 15% to 8.7% and moderate (Grade II) malnutrition from 47.5% to 43.8% during the period 1975 to 1990. Further, using mean ± 2 SD (Standard Deviation) NCHS (National Centre for Health Statistics) standard as the cut-off level, the percentage of underweight (weight/age) children has declined from 68.6% in 1988-90 to 53.4% in 1992-93.

Malnutrition is an outcome of complex and inter-related set of factors. The major determinants of malnutrition are low purchasing power leading to poor dietary intakes, ignorance due to low literacy particularly among females leading to poor feeding practices, poor personal hygiene and unhealthy environments leading to high prevalence of childhood infections like diarrhoea, gastroenteritis which aggravate the already malnourished state of child by interfering with nutrients absorption and their retention.

(c) According to the UNICEF publication 'The Progress of Nations, 1996', the percentage of children below five years suffering from malnutrition in India and other developing countries is as under:

India	53%
Nepal	49%
Bhutan	38%
Bangladesh	67%
Ceylon (Sri Lanka)	38%
Pakistan	40%

(d) The Government is seized of the problem and has been implementing a number of nutrition and nutrition related interventions through its different sectors with a view to ensure that the people, particularly the children and women do not suffer from malnutrition. The notable interventions include the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Nutrition Education Activities, Child Survival and Safe Motherhood (CSSM) Programme etc. The adoption of the National Nutrition Policy in 1993 and implementation of the multi-sectoral strategy utilising the framework of the National Plan of Action on Nutrition, 1995 is another major step in this direction.

Hindi and Urdu Universities

474 SHRI GOPALKRISHNA Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Hindi and Urdu universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these universities are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. H. RAM SAIKIA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya would be the promotion and development of Hindi language and literature, through teaching and research, with a view to enabling Hindi to achieve greater functional efficiency and recognition as a major international language. It is proposed to be set up at Wardha. The Maulana Azad National Urdu University is proposed to be set up at Hyderabad mainly to promote and develop Urdu language and to impart vocational and technical education in Urdu medium through conventional teaching and distance education system.