

representation for setting up a bench of Madras High Court at Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Madras High Court in its Full Court meeting on August 31, 1995 resolved, in principle, to establish a Circuit Bench of the High Court at Madurai on fulfilment of certain conditions relating to infrastructure etc. Since the State Government has, in the first instance, to fulfil these conditions, it is not practicable to indicate any time frame for establishment of the Bench.

#### Vocational Education

1227. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes to impart vocational education have failed to achieve the desired impact;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education did not yield the desired results mainly because of low priority accorded to the implementation of the Scheme by States. Many States started the vocational courses without sufficient preparation, like absence of district vocational surveys, appointment of teachers, lack of managerial set-up and information systems. The Vocational courses introduced at the under graduate level will have to be evaluated in course of time.

(c) A Working Group was constituted to assess the current implementation position and suggest suitable modifications in the implementation of the scheme at the secondary level. Recommendations of the Working Group have been circulated to States/UTs for their comments. Pilot schemes with organisations such as the National Institute of Fashion Technology and also being implemented to overcome drawbacks in the scheme.

#### Malnutrition in Children in Assam

1228. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Children in relief camps in Kokrajhar district of Assam are suffering from Malnutrition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide well nourished food to the children in such camps?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to poor nutritional status.

(c) Steps have been taken for providing sufficient supplementary nutrition by Government of Assam and NGOs. Medical team is visiting the relief camps regularly.

#### CSIR

1229. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the aims and objects behind setting up of CSIR;

(b) the extent to which those aims and objects have been achieved;

(c) whether the performance of CSIR till date has been up to the mark; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was formed in 1942 as an autonomous society with a wide charter of functions. These included promotion, guidance and co-ordination of scientific and industrial research, collection and dissemination of information on research and industry, founding of laboratories to further scientific and industrial research and exploitation of the research results for development of industry. CSIR was also charged with other tasks such as rendering assistance to other institutions, conducting research, awarding fellowships and publishing scientific journals.

(b) and (c) Over the years CSIR has performed its assigned role in consonance with national needs and priorities. CSIR today is a well knit, co-ordinated,