

[English]

- (iii) Need to recognise the higher course of Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education, Pondicherry as equivalent to B.A. and B.Sc. courses of other Universities in the country

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsore): Although Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education at Pondicherry has been recognised by many famous and well reputed Universities like J. N. U., Hyderabad, Usmania, Bombay, Banaras Hindu, Jadavpur, Calcutta, Annamalai Universities as well as by the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, as an equivalent to B.A., B.Sc. and the Ministry of Home Affairs in their Office Memorandum of 14th August, 1962, recognised it as equivalent to the first degree of recognised Indian University, for the purpose of appointment in services and posts under the Central Government but the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India, has not yet issued orders approving it as equivalent to B.A. or B.Sc. degree of all the Universities in the country, resulting in utmost difficulties inconveniences and sufferings to the thousands of students in the matter of admission to post graduate course in other universities. The standard of education imparted there and the syllabus and curriculum etc. are much higher than that of any other University in the country. It should have been given the same status, as given to any recognised University. The U. G. C. is also giving regular grants to the school of this institution from time to time, though this institution is not affiliated to the U. G. C. The U. G. C. considered this institution as one of the best of its kind in the country and therefore, released grants from time to time.

I would request the Ministry of Human Resources Development to recognise the higher course of Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education at Pondicherry as equivalent to B.A. and B.Sc. course of all the Universities of the country.

[Translation]

- (iv) Need to take urgent necessary steps to convert the manual exchange in Giridih district of Bihar into an automatic exchange.

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED (Giridih): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I want to inform that Giridih in Bihar still has a manual telephone system. There are more than 300 telephone lines. To convert it into an automatic exchange and to provide dial system to the subscribers, machines have been purchased long ago and they are only to be installed. Approval has also been accorded to provide STD facility and the State Government has allotted land for the tower, but till now neither the exchange has been converted nor tower has been erected. This has caused great difficulty to the people in making calls outside and it has caused great resentment among the local people.

Therefore, I request the Government to take immediate steps in this regard so that machines can be saved from being damaged and difficulties of the people can also be removed.

[English]

- (v) Need to take necessary measures for preservation and exhibition of the relics of Buddhist stupas and other items excavated in Lalitgiri and Udaygiri regions of Cuttack district in Orissa and provide necessary facilities for the tourists.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): The recent excavations in Lalitgiri and Udaygiri Buddhist stupas, a part of Ratanagiri, Udaygiri and Lalitgiri complex also known as 'Pushpagiri Vihar' in Cuttack district of Orissa have again underlined the importance of conservation and preservation of these historical monuments. At Lalitgiri a large 'stupa' has been excavated in which the sacred Buddhist relic placed in gold casket covered by a bigger silver casket has been found which is unique in the whole State of Orissa. In Udaygiri too, a new 'Vihara' has been excavated. The shield and edict show that there was a famous