

posal under consideration of Government to convert the University of Tripura into a Central University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay in taking the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government. University of Tripura has been established under an Act of State Legislature, and as a matter of policy, the Central Government does not convert State Universities into Central Universities.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Education for Girls in Punjab

5979. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to encourage education among girls in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). The Central and State Governments have been taking measures from time to time to encourage girls education. The measures include recruitment of more women teachers for primary schools, incentive schemes like distribution of free text-books and free uniforms, attendance scholarships,

provision of central assistance to the tune of 90% for running non-formal education centres for girls, removal of sexist bias from textbooks and supplementary readers prescribed at different stages of schools education. The Government of Punjab has informed that free and compulsory education for girls is provided upto class VIII. A special grant is provided to SC girls studying in Arts, Science and Professional Colleges.

Canteens in Department Headquarters

5980. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any price, weight and quality of the items prepared/sold by the Canteens (eatables) in Defence Headquarters has been fixed and maintained;

(b) if so, how is it ensured that the items are prepared/sold at the fixed price with the weight and quality laid down in this regard;

(c) the details of the checks carried out during the last six months with steps taken to overcome the shortcomings noticed;

(d) the number of complaints received against the quality, price and weight of the items sold/prepared, canteen-wise, during the last six months; and

(e) the details of remedial steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The maintenance of quality, quantity/weight as well as selling price of the items prepared and sold by the canteens is ensured by the Managing Committees of the respective canteens. There is also a centrally constituted Quality Control Committee