

with the standard of education imparted by these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): No evaluation has yet been undertaken regarding the extent to which the purposes for which Navodaya Vidyalayas were set up, have been fulfilled. Government have, as of now, decided to review the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme. Until this is completed no new Navodaya Vidyalayas will be opened; but the existing ones will be supported as per the original plans.

Promotion of Nurseries

6140. SHRI C.M. NEGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a plan to promote people's nurseries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh government during the last three years, yearwise, in this regard;

(d) whether some specific amounts have been earmarked/spent on promotion of such nurseries in Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Decentralised People's Nurseries are being promoted under a Centrally

Sponsored Scheme, which was initiated in 1986. Under the Scheme, funds are provided to the States and Union territories in the beginning of the season to raise seedlings through local organisation like Schools Mahila Mandals, etc.

(c) to (e). The Government of Uttar Pradesh did not avail of any assistance under the Scheme in 1987-88 and 1988-89. In 1989-90, a total amount of Rs. 210 lakhs was provided under the Scheme to Uttar Pradesh Government. In addition, 19 voluntary agencies in Uttar Pradesh have been provided a total amount amount of Rs. 17.50 lakhs for raising their own nurseries under the projects sanctioned in their favour.

[*Translation*]

Remote Sensing Photography of forest Cover in Country

6141. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the studies of forests cover are being conducted since 1972 by the National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad from photographs received through Satellite;

(b) whether the area of forest cover is constantly declining; and

(c) if so, the areas under forests in States and Union Territories in 1972 and the percentage of decline registered in this regard at present according to NRSA data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) National level forest cover mapping and