ment proposals for the Eight Plan cover development of national highways, express ways, railways, telecommunications and power development in the Central Sector, while in the State Sector, the programmes include land acquisition and development for residential and industrial purposes and development for residential and industrial purposes and infrastructure improvement.

[Translation]

Steps to Improve Standard Of Education

145. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to improve the falling standard of education in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken on this regard; and
- (c) the steps Government propose to take to make the education system employment oriented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE-SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMAN-GAL PANDE): (a) and (b). Several programmes have been launched by the State Government for improvement of educational standards. The Central Government also initiated in 1987-88 the scheme of Operation Blackboard to improve the facilities in primary schools. A number of measures have been taken also to improve the content and process of education. Some of these measures include renewal of curricula, improvement of the quality of text-books, in-service training of teachers to improve their professional competence and utilisation of educa-

tional technology to bring about improvement in the quality of education.

(c): The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Education aims at making school education relevant to World of work. Modernisation and removal of obsolescence, restructuring of courses and programmes are major objectives of schemes in the field of technical education.

[English]

Ambedkar Avas Yojna

*146. SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT: SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Delhi Development Authority launched Ambedkar Avas Yojna in 1989;
- (b) if so, the number of persons who were registered under this scheme and the amount collected by the Delhi Development Authority from them;
- (c) whether the Delhi Development Authority is considering to defer the implementation of the above scheme; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the scheme will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVEL-OPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) A total of 32,900 applications have been received and a sum of Rs.23 crores has been received from these applicants.
 - (c) No, Sir.