

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) & (b) The Seventh Plan does not identify stations to be improved/developed during the Plan period. The works for improving and development of Railway stations are programmed on year to year basis, and the financial allocations are also decided on year to year basis. Further, the planning of works is done Zonal Railway-wise and not Statewise.

(c) A work of "Augmentation of goods terminal facilities for handling blocks takes at Visakhapatnam Town" at a cost of Rs. 17.66 lakhs is proposed to be included in 1986-87 Budget.

Grants to Homoeopathic Colleges in Orissa

*256. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of grants given to the States for the promotion of Homoeopathic Colleges during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the amount of grants received so far by the several Homoeopathic Colleges of Orissa from the Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHINA KIDWAI) : (a) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have no scheme under which grants are given to States for the promotion of Homoeopathic Colleges.

(b) Does not arise.

Cultural ties with Afghanistan

*257. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :

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

(a) whether Government have established cultural ties with Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the year since when cultural exchange programme is proposed to be implemented; and

(c) the details of the activities which have been included under the cultural exchange programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) India and Afghanistan signed a Cultural Agreement in October, 1963. In pursuance of this, successive programmes of specific cultural exchanges are being implemented. The latest programme covers the period 1985-1987.

(c) A statement containing details of the activities included in the latest cultural exchange programme is given below.

Statement

Details of the activities included in the cultural Exchange Programme

I. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

1. Afghan side will send and Indian side will receive upto 6 professors/educationists in the field of development studies, viz. economics, geography, development planning, scientific research, management studies and in science and technology including geology, medicine and any other subjects to be mutually agreed upon.
2. Indian side will send and Afghan side will receive 6 scholars/professors/teachers in the field of development/studies viz. economics, geophysics management etc. and in the Pushto language history and culture.
3. Both parties will cooperate in the joint research and teaching programme. The field and research