

3. As the main strategy for covering out of school children, both non-starters and dropouts, a non-formal part time education system is being developed in a large way. Under a Centrally sponsored scheme of Non-formal Education for elementary age group children, Ministry of Education gives special assistance on a 50 : 50 sharing basis for running non-formal education centres to 9 educationally backward States, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. This scheme has been liberalised from 1983-84 under which assistance on 90 : 10 sharing basis is given to these States for opening non-formal education centres exclusively for girls. Voluntary Organisations in the 9 educationally backward States are also given assistance on 100% basis for running non-formal education centres. For production of teaching-learning materials under the Non-formal Education Programme, commodity assistance in the form of paper has been given to most of the States and UTs. In the context of Universalisation of Elementary Education, Non-formal Education Programme is expected to play a bigger role in the 7th Five Year Plan, which is still under formulation.

**Special U.G.C. Scholarships for Under-Graduate Science Students**

\*88. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has proposed a scheme of 100 special scholarships of Rs. 20.0 per month each to particularly promising students at undergraduate level in science ;

(b) if so, details of the scheme ; and

(c) if not, what other schemes U.G.C. have to promote excellence in science education ?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K.C. PANT) :** (a) The University

Grants Commission has instituted a scheme of 100 scholarships of Rs. 200 (Rs. two hundred) per month for students in undergraduate courses in science subjects.

(b) and (c). The scholarships are offered to students who qualify in the National Talent Search Examination conducted by the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT). Only those students who pursue an undergraduate course in Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences or Home Science are eligible for these scholarships.

**Metro and Circular Railways in Calcutta**

\*89. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the latest position of the construction of Metro and Circular railways in Calcutta ;

(b) the reasons for the delay in the completion of the above projects ; and

(c) whether Government propose to sanction enough funds for the completion of the said projects speedily ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) :** (a) Two part sections of the Metro Railway, one from Esplanade to Bhowanipur covering a length of 3.5 Kms and other from Dum Dum to Belgachia covering a length of 2.2 Kms have been opened for commercial services as a single line section. Regarding circular railway, 10 Km. length of the alignment from Prinsep Ghat to Ulta Danga has been opened for commercial services as a single line section with trains hauled by diesel locomotives.

(b) The work on both the projects is progressing according to schedule.

(c) Funds are allotted by Planning Commission depending upon the resources of the Government, which are assessed from year to year.

**Allotment of Wagons for Movement of Salt in Gujarat**

\*90. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will