

(b) The achievements as reported by the State Government under the Yojana are as under

- (i) A sum of Rs. 1.27 crores has been disbursed as loan resulting in setting up of 1550 units under the component of Urban Micro Enterprises. 577 persons have been trained/are undergoing training;
- (ii) Under Urban Wage Employment, works costing Rs. 46.69 lakhs have been executed resulting in the generation of 73373 mandays of employment.
- (iii) Under the component of Housing & Shelter Upgradation 51 schemes involving 13496 dwelling units have been approved.

Costly Books

956. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the books have become very costly due to increase in the cost of paper and printing charges causing great hardships to the low and middle class people as they are unable to purchase books;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to make available books at cheaper rates to these classes of people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) There has been an increase in the price of books due to increase in the cost of paper and printing charges.

(b) and (c). Government have been attempting to make books available at cheaper rates, as far as possible. The Government of India (Ministry of I & B) has brought out a low priced series entitled "Books for Millions" in English, "Hum Sab Ki Pustak Mala" and "Hum Aur Hamara Parivar" in Hindi. Apart from this, the NCERT books (Text Books) are available at very reasonable rates since these books are priced on a no profit, no loss basis. The National Book Trust, India bring out books on a variety of subjects for common readers at low prices under the following series:-

- INDIA-THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE
- THE NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY SERIES
- FOLKLORE OF INDIA
- NEHRU BAL PUSTAKALAYA
- AADAN PRADAN
- YOUNG INDIA LIBRARY
- READING MATERIAL FOR NEW-LITERATES
- POPULAR SCIENCE SERIES

The NBT has stepped up its activities. It also gives subsidy to private publishers and voluntary agencies to publish books for children, neo-literates and for the higher education sector by paying the author and illustrator directly and assisting the production of the book. The selling price of such books is controlled by the Trust.

Payment to sugar mills from consolidated fund of India

957. SHRI MANGARAJ MALLIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state: