

enunciated the National Policy on Education, 1968. This Policy provided for a review every five years of the progress made so that guide-lines could be formulated for future development. The present Government on assumption of charge undertook a review with a view to revising the Policy. However, pending the review which implied consultation with the State Governments and various educational authorities, the Government announced its intentions to proceed with urgent programmes of reform which included spread of literacy among the people and reform of contents of education at all stages. In accordance with these objectives, a time-bound plan for spreading education among the illiterate adults of our country and universalisation of elementary education for the children of the age-group 6—14 has been formulated. Action has also been taken to revise the contents of education at all stages of education. Meanwhile, consultations have taken place with various educational authorities and the State Governments and Government have attempted a draft National Policy on Education which is now receiving its final touches. Government hope to place this draft Policy before Parliament soon.

Central Govt. Secondary Schools

*9. SHRI RUDOLBH RODRIGUES:
Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme for the rapid expansion in the number of Central Government Secondary Schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARAKATAKI): (a) to (c). The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Central Schools Organisa-

tion), an autonomous organisation set up by the Government of India in the Ministry of Education, sets up Kendriya Vidyalayas for the benefit of transferable Central Government employees. As of today the Sangathan is authorised to set up only 12 Kendriya Vidyalayas during a year, besides Kendriya Vidyalayas fully financed by Public Sector Undertakings. The present number of Kendriya Vidyalayas throughout the country is 265. There is a proposal to increase the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas to be set up from 1979-80 onwards.

Other Ministries including Defence and Railways also set up Secondary Schools for the exclusive benefit of their employees.

Damage due to Floods

*10. SHRI SHIV SAMPATI RAM:
SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of damage to crops, livestock and human lives caused in each State during the recent floods;
- (b) the monetary and other assistance sought from the Centre by each State and the extent of assistance provided by the Centre to each State; and
- (c) whether the assistance so far provided to each State is considered sufficient and if not, the further assistance proposed to be provided to each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The extent of damage to crops, livestock and human