Abolition of Editorial Board

*591. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of EDU-CATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the replies given to Starred Question Nos. 283 and 294 on 12th March, 1979 re: ban/withdrawal of history text books and state the reasons why the Editorial Board for Text Books was abolished?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUN-DER): In order to eliminate the delay in bringing out texbooks as well as to reduce the load of textbooks on the students, NCERT abolished their Editorial Boards.

Recruitment by C.P.W.D. in 1964-65 for Various Projects

*592. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: SHRI BHANU KUMAR SHAS-TRI:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND RE-HABILITATION be pleased to state;

(a) the total number of employees recruited during 1964-65 by C.P.W.D. for their projects in the adjoining areas falling in U.P., Bihar, Bengal and Nepal;

(b) whether as per appointment letters issued to them, they were to be paid their salary in Indian currency;

(c) whether after April, 1970, his Ministry arbitrarily scrapped apart from other condition this condition and started paying their salaries in currency other than Indian;

(d) if so, concrete reasons therefor;

(e) the considerations which weighed with the authorities concerned in changing the terms of appointment arbitrarily; whether as a result of discontentment among the workers some memoranda (representations) have been received; and

(b) action proposed to be taken by Government in the matter and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND RE-HABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(f) The matter is under the active consideration of the Government.

I.C.A.R. to Boost Output of Oilseeds through Nuclear Technique

*593. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJA-RY: Will the Minister of AGRICUL-TURAL AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has developed some nuclear technique to boost output of oilseeds; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRA-TAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of vegetable oils depends upon the seed yield and the percentage of oil in life seed. Higher seed and oil yields could be obtained through the breeding of high yielding varieties. Among other things nuclear techniques are used as a tool for improving the varieties both for vield and oil content. With the application of nuclear techniques an improved castor variety 'Aruna' has been developed by the Indian Agricultural Research institute.

However, to develop a variety with high oil content, a large number of seed samples from the experimental material has to be screened. In this respect, a rapid and non-destructive method of oil determination would be more advantageous since it is less

cumbersome, less time consuming and, more-over the screening could be done without destroying the seed. Realising the importance of this problem, a technique for rapid and non-destructive determination of oil in oilseeds using Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer was developed by the Nuclear Research Laboratory at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. The technique was tested by measur ing oil content of 60 Brassica seed samples by three different methods independently at three laboratories (Sweedish Seed Association Svalov: Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay; and Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi). There was a good agreement between the three methods in so far as the results were concerned. The reproducibility of seed oil determination by Pulsed Nuclear Magnetic Resonance method was better than the other methods. It takes only a few seconds to record the oil content of a sample, which makes the screening test extremely fast. The possibility of an analytical error is rather small in view of the procedure being simple and automatic.

Automatic Telephone Exchanges during 1979-80 in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh

*594. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many telephone exchanges will be made automatic in the year 1979-80 in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, State-wise; and

(b) what type of machinery and equipments are to be used for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKH-DEO SAI): (a) During 1979-80 it is hoped to instal automatic exchanges at following stations in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh in replacement of manual exchanges:

In Punjab Faridkot

In Haryana Kalka

In Himachal Pradesh Dharamsala.

(b) Strowger MAX-II type of I.T.I. manufacture.

Appointment of Punjabi Language Teachers in Delhi Schools

5601. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assistant Director of Education (Linguistic Minorities) Delhi conducted an inquiry with regard to the 71 schools where Punjabi is being taught and no punjabi language teacher was posted in them in the first week of January, 1979, on the request of Punjabi Language Teachers Association, Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of schools (i) where Punjabi is being taught in VI, VII and VIII Classes; (ii) where punjabi is being taught in VI and VII Classes; (iii) where punjabi is being taught in VI Class;

(c) the reasons for not appointing the Punjabi Language Teachers in those schools;

(d) the names of the Government Hr, Sec. Schools where Punjabi is being taught upto XI or XII Class but only one PGT is posted there without giving any consideration to his her work load; and

(e) what are the reasons for reducing the periods of Punjabi in those schools, resulting in harming the minority language?

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