

A new scheme called the "Scheme for Assisting Promising Sports-persons and Supporting Personnel" has been introduced wherein eminent sports persons can be given amounts upto Rs. 5 lakhs for equipment, training, engagement of coaches and scientific support.

(c) The process of bringing Sports under Concurrent list is under process and an all party meeting to discuss the subject is slated to be called by the Hon'ble Minister for Parliamentary Affairs shortly.

Scheme to Promote Primary Education

555. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government spent Rs. 2000 crores on the scheme to promote primary education under the 'Operation Blackboard' scheme in 1986-87;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any national evaluation has been made/is being made to study the project;

(d) if so, the details of the evaluation and its findings alongwith the names of agencies engaged for such evaluation; and

(e) what further action has been taken after the evaluation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The scheme of Operation Blackboard was launched by this Department in 1987-88. A sum of Rs. 2081.16 crores has been released to State Governments/UT Administrations for implementation of the scheme upto 1997-98.

(c) to (e) The National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) has recently been entrusted the task of conducting a national evaluation of the Operation Blackboard scheme. The evaluation is underway in collaboration with reputed research and evaluation agencies in the country.

Sports Related Projects in Himachal Pradesh

556. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of play ground, indoor stadium and other sports related projects presently existing in Himachal Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the details of such projects examined and sanctioned during the last three years; and

(c) what are Government's plans to develop such projects?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) As per record of the last ten years, the district-wise details of sports infrastructure created with Central assistance in Himachal Pradesh are given in the Statement-I] (*See below*)

(b) the details of Central assistance provided for such projects during the last three years are given in the Statement-II. (*See below*)

(c) Depending upon the receipt of viable proposals from the Government of Himachal Pradesh, admissible Central assistance would be provided for creation of sports facilities.