

agencies. In respect of project implementation the funding agencies have agreed with our strategies which are in keeping with the National Policy on Education. The broad terms and conditions of the loan aid include the following:—

(a) For IDA Credit, Government of India shall pay a service charge at the rate of 3/4 of 1% per annum on the principal amount of the credit withdrawn and outstanding. Commitment charge on the amount not withdrawn shall also be payable at a rate not exceeding 1/2 of 1% per annum. The repayment period is 35 years with a 10 years grace period.

(b) The concerned DPEP State are required to maintain expenditures on elementary education in real terms at base year levels.

(c) Government of India shall ensure that the State Implementation Societies receive project funds on six monthly basis for anticipated expenditures under their approved annual work plans.

(d) Agreed time schedules for various studies and implementation programme would be followed.

(e) There will be Joint Supervision Missions to the project areas to assess the progress of programme implementation. These Missions will have representatives of the Government of India and International Funding Agencies.

Delinking National Centre for Children's Literature from the National Book Trust

1894. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government will consider it expedient to delink the National Centre for Children's literature from the National Book Trust of India in view of

the imperative need for a full-fledged agency to bestow adequate attention towards the production of literature for children; and

(b) if so, whether Government will consider Hyderabad to be the ideal place for its location, in view of the city's multi-lingual character and also in view of the fact that Andhra Pradesh is the pioneer in establishing Children's Akademi way back in 1976?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Centre for Children's Literature is an intergral arm of the National Book Trust. Since its inception in 1993, the Centre has been doing good work in the field of children's literature by setting up of readers' clubs in remote areas, conducting workshops, surveys of readers and publishers, exhibitions, fairs, seminars and the like. The Centre also functions as a complementary wing of the Trust for the Nehru Bal Pustakalaya children's series through identifications of manuscripts, study of need-based areas and conducting of workshops. Being a part of the National Book Trust, it is considered conducive to the proper growth of the National Centre for Children's Literature. As such, there is no proposal to delink the Centre from the National Book Trust.

Second Language Status to Mother Tongue in Private Schools

1895. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of schools under private management in the country where mother tongue is not the first language and is given only the status of the second language;

(b) whether a student can avoid study of his/her mother tongue even as the second language in such schools by opting for the special English which is provided