

States (Figures in Lakhs)	
Manipur	0.08
Meghalaya	0.08
Mizoram	0.08
Nagaland	0.06
Orissa	2.17
Punjab	7.42
Rajasthan	6.31
Sikkim	0.00
Tamilnadu	14.94
Tripura	0.37
Uttar Pradesh	15*0
West Bengal	11.20
Total	140.31
<i>Union Territories</i>	
Andaman & Nicobar	0.12
Chandigarh	0.86
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.02
Daman & Diu	0.05
Lakshadweep	0.01
Pondicherry	0.54
Total	1.59
All India.	141.90

Schemes to involve local bodies in cultural programmes

*54. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH
'SURYA' SHRI SANJAY
NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to involve local bodies—Panchayats and Nagar Palikas—in important cultural programmes of the Department;

(b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A scheme has been formulated to establish Rural Libraries at Panchayat level. The scheme is to be implemented through the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation in cooperation with the State Govts/Union Territories on a 75:25 matching basis. The scheme aims to provide assistance to Gram Panchayats including local government authority at Block level if there are no village Panchayats. The Centre's share of the grant is: for construction of library building an amount of Rs. 1 lakh and for purchase of books, furniture and equipment Rs. 50,000/- to effectively run the library activities, the library will be administered at the Panchayat level by a Committee comprised of BDO/Panchayat Pradhan/Sarpanch/Mukhiya in their ex-official capacity and such other representatives as the State Govt, may nominate.

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence, celebrations are being planned in a manner that will ensure participation by a maximum number of people, involving all sections of Society and at all levels such as towns, villages, Tehsils, district headquarters, State Capitals, factories, trading centres, schools, colleges, universities, local bodies and panchayati Raj institutions etc. The plan of action for this celebration is to be decided by State level Committees formed for the celebrations of 50th Anniversary of India's Independence. In this connection Union Minister of Human Resource Development has addressed a detailed communication on 2.6.97 to all Chief Ministers.

(c) Does not arise.

Areas likely to be hit by drought

*55. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR
SINGLA: DR. SHRIKANT RAM
CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the areas and regions in India which are likely to be hit by drought this year;