

of the five Zonal Institutes of Education and Training has been opened at Gwalior.

(b) the aims and objects of the Institute are: to organise inservice training programmes for KV teachers and other officers, to develop curricular enrichment materials, to train in working with educational technology, to improve evaluation practices and to develop as a resource institution for KVS.

(c) The Institute will provide facilities for computer aided learning and research and educational studies alongwith inservice training in various school subject etc.

Transfer of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Victims

571. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 6632 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th May, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the tragedy affected teachers transfer orders have since been cancelled; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. One of the post Graduate Teachers who claims to be victim of Bhopal Gas Tragedy was posted to Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Bhopal, by transferring out the incumbent teacher. The teacher who was transferred out of Bhopal filed a Writ Petition in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh and got a stay order. The Court, in its final order delivered on 5-10-95, directed the competent authority of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to consider the claims of both the teachers and pass appropriate orders in accordance with the law. Both the teachers claim to be Gas

Victims and have now submitted their representations to the Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for taking suitable decision as directed by the Court.

Newspaper Report on Pension Adalats held by KVS

572. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2460 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th August 1995 and state the reaction of the Government towards a news item captioned 'Pension Adalats' 'Much Cry Little Wool' that appeared in New Delhi city edition of the 'Pioneer' dated the 4th September, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): In the News item, it has been reported that Sufficient time was not given to the petitioners to submit their petitions; the publicity was inadequate; and there was no payment of TADA to the petitioners who attended the Pension Adalat.

Based on the guidelines issued by Department of Pension & Pensioner's Welfare, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) organised the first of the three Pension Adalats for the employees on 20th August, 1995, at Delhi.

Two weeks time was given to the Petitioners to submit their applications. However, KVS Head-Quarter accepted the petitions received even after the due date and petitioners were entertained even on the Pension Adalat Day held on 20th August, 1995. Wide publicity was given in prominent newspapers, both in English and Hindi published from Delhi, Chandigarh, Jaipur and Jammu, to reach the maximum number of target group. In addition, all the principals of Kendriya Vidyalayas of the five Regions were also directed through a circular to inform the

retired employees living near their Vidyalayas about the pension Adalat.

There is no question of making payment of TADA to the petitioner who attended the Pension Adalat. This was also made clear in the advertisement issued by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. The retired persons come to these Adalats as petitioners for setting pending matters, they are not called on official duty.

Open Basic Education Programme

573. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry are ready to implement a specially designed Open Basic Education Programme as reported in the 'Times of India', New Delhi, dated 16th November, 1995;

(b) if so, the objectives of the OBE project and the number of States likely to be covered/benefited indicating curriculum laid down for the above Programmes and funds likely to be provided for the same during the year 1995-96 by the Central as well as concerned State Governments; and

(c) whether any special meeting on 15th November, 1995 was called by the Minister with C.Ms of States in New Delhi for an overview of the total literacy campaigns and if so, with what results.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI): (a) and (b) A proposal to implement a project called 'Open Basic Education' has been received from National Open School (NOS). The objective is to provide educational opportunities to the neo-literates from Adult Education Programmes and early school drop-outs. The Operational details have not been finalised so far.

(c) Yes. The Minister of Human

Resource Development held discussions with the Chief Ministers of six States on various issues including over-view of total literacy campaign. The meeting was held in New Delhi on 16.11.95. The objective of the meeting was to accelerate the literacy programme in these States. The success of literacy programme in the country hinges on its success in these 6 large States viz. U.P., M.P., Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Rajasthan.

During the meeting it was decided to draw-up a time-bound action plan for 'total literacy campaign' coverage of uncovered districts, increase motivation to volunteers, establish strong linkages between literacy campaigns and Panchayati Raj Institutions as well as between the literacy programme and other developmental programmes such as Pulse Polio Immunisation and other health programmes, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana etc. It was also decided to decentralise and delegate authority to the State Governments for implementation of literacy programmes. The Directorate of Adult Education under the Ministry is also proposed to be strengthened, so as to effectively monitor the programme.

Havoc caused by floods

574. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether floods had created havoc in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the areas in which the flood fury was the most and the action taken by Government to give relief to the people;

(c) whether the losses suffered by the people and the farmers has been assessed and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of relief given to the individuals and the farmers;

(e) whether laxity has been shown by Government of Haryana in pumping out the flood water from Rohtak city; and