

Seminars on Population

2862. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM-
BHAIRAO SHINDE :

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to
state :

(a) whether a national seminar on
"Population—A Resource of Burden" was
held in the capital on 20th October, 1994,
under the aegis of the National Council
for Science Museum;

(b) if so, what were the main observa-
tions and suggestions made at the seminar;
and

(c) what is Government's reaction there-
of?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCA-
TION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE)
(KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The
Seminar on population was organised by the
National Council of Science Museums,
under its popular programme 'National
Science Seminar', on 20th October, 1994,
and meant for school students, for encour-
aging and inculcating in them scientific
temper as part of its regular activity.

(c) Does not arise.

Self Financing Higher Education

2863. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHAN-
KAR DAVE :

SHRI G. G. SWELL :

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOU-
RCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government considered the
need of self financing higher education;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) what was the expenditure on educa-
tion by the Central Government and all
the States and Union Territories inclu-
ding the current year's expenditure;

(d) what is the allocation of funds for
higher education by the Central Govern-
ment and State Governments and Union
Territories during the last three years; and

(e) whether it has been decided to float
an educational loan bank to finance the
needy students at various levels includ-
ing higher education, if so, the details
thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCA-
TION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE)
(KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The Gov-
ernment's policy on financing of education
is spelt out in the National Policy on

Education—1986, as modified in 1992.
The Policy postulates that "Resources, to
the extent possible, will be raised by mobi-
lising donations, asking beneficiary com-
munities to maintain school buildings
and supplies of some consumables, rais-
ing fees at the higher levels of education
and effecting some savings by the efficient
use of facilities. Institutions involved with
research and the development of technical
and scientific manpower should also mobi-
lize some funds by levying a cess or charge
on the user agencies, including Government
Departments, and entrepreneurs. All these
measures will be taken not only to reduce
the burden on State resources but also
for creating a greater sense of responsi-
bility within the educational system".

(c) and (d) The information is being
collected and will be laid on the table of
the House.

(e) Commercial Banks are already pro-
viding need-based finance to the eligible
students under the "Educational Loans"
Scheme.

Mineral Deposits in North Bengal

2864. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI :
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased
to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the
fact that the North Bengal including the
Darjeeling Hills is a rich depository of
minerals;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by
Government to explore these mineral de-
posits; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.
As a result of survey carried out by Geo-
logical Survey of India (GSI), a total re-
serve of 15 million tonnes of coal in
Eagrakot area in Darjeeling district, 3,7006
million tonnes of Lead-zinc ore with 3.77%
lead and 3.87% zinc at Gorubathan and
adjoining areas in Darjeeling district. 243
million tonnes of dolomite in Jainti area in
Jalpaiguri district and crystalline limestone
near Palla area, Darjeeling district has been
established.

(c) Does not arise.

Mining Diamond Contract to Foreign Companies

2865. SHRI O. P. KOHLI : Will the
Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the State Govern-
ments have given mining rough diamond
contracts to foreign companies in prefer-
ence to Indian companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?