

ताजमहल का संरक्षण

*37. श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ भीम अफजल : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को रुड़की विश्वविद्यालय के तीन विशेषज्ञों वाली समिति द्वारा प्रस्तुत की गई इस रिपोर्ट की जानकारी है कि आगरा का ताज-महल न केवल धंस रहा है बल्कि जर्जर भी हो रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार वास्तुशिल्प की इस महान कृति की रक्षा के लिए क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन सिंह)

(क) जिस रिपोर्ट का हवाला दिया गया है, उसमें ताजमहल, आगरा के धंसने अथवा जर्जर होने के बारे में कोई उल्लेख नहीं है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Foreign aid for Earthquake Victims in Maharashtra

*38. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHA-JIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMTI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the extent of foreign aid received from different foreign countries for relief of the victims of the devastating earthquake at the Latur-Osmanabad belt of Maharashtra on September 30, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Crops Destroyed by Locust Swarms in Dhar and Jhabua

*39. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the swarms of locusts crossed over from Gujarat into

some parts of Dhar and Jhabua Districts recently;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent crops being destroyed by the locust swarms; and

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred by Government to spray insecticides etc. on the swarms of locusts ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) One small swarm entered Dhar and Jhabua districts from Gujarat on 1st October, 1993. It was immediately controlled by undertaking ground operations.

(b) The steps taken are as under:—

- (i) Deployment of special locust survey and control teams.
- (ii) Mobilisation of pesticides and plant protection equipment for controlling locust.
- (iii) Coordination with the State Government in controlling locust.

(c) The expenditure incurred by the Government of India is approximately Rs. 3.51 crores in Dhar, Jhabua and other areas of the country.

Expenditure on Primary, Secondary and Higher Education

*40 SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

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

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration to introduce loan based higher education that would cover full recurring cost of education and the funds thus saved by the Central and State Governments would be transferred to primary and vocational education which suffer from serious handicaps ;

(b) whether Government are aware that In developing and developed countries the major part of the burden of higher education does not rest on the state:

(c) what is the quantum and percentage expenses on Primary, secondary and vocational education and the number of students covered in these sectors in our country; and

(d) what is per capita expenditure on primary, secondary and higher education ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to reduce the present level of funding of Higher Education by Central Government. Educational loans to students for

pursuing Higher Education cannot tally substitute the financial support presently being extended by the Government to institutions of higher education.

(b) The National Policy on Education and the Programme of Action 1992 have envisaged various measures for raising internal resources and improving cost efficiency of Higher Education institutions with a view to reduce the burden on the State.

(c) and (d) The requisite information is placed on the Table of the House in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sector	Expenditure (Centre + States/ UTs) (Rs. in crores)	Number of students covered (In crores)	Year 1992-93
			Average cost per student
1. Elementary Education (BE)	9397.42 (45.30)	14.41	652.15
2. Secondary Education (BE)	6562.36 (31.60)	2.27	2890.91
3. Higher Education (BE)	2631.98 (12.70)	0.44	5981.77

(.*) Figures in brackets indicate the percentage to the total expenditure of Education Departments in the Centre and States.

(*) The data in this statement is based on the relevant Budgets and gross enrolment statistics for the year 1992-93.

Death due to Malnutrition in Dharni Maharashtra

98. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Times of India dated 9th September, 1993, to the effect that 160 tribal children died of malnutrition in the two months in Dharni (Amravati-Maharashtra); and

(b) if so, whether Government have caused any inquiry into the report; if so,

the findings thereof, indicating the circumstances leading to such deaths ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra has assessed the reasons as arising out of malnutrition due to various social and economic factors, lack of nutritional education and unwillingness to avail medical health care facilities.

99. [Transferred to 14th December, 1993-1