

Statement by U.G.C. Chairman

4510. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement reportedly made by UGC Chairman that National Policy of Education can be implemented effectively only if the respective roles of Central and State Government UGC and Universities are clearly delineated;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission had convened a special meeting of Vice-Chancellors/Directors of Universities/Deemed Universities in New Delhi in May, 1993, to discuss more effective implementation of the revised Programme of Action-1992, on the modified National Policy on Education-1986, in so far as it relates to higher education. The Chairman, UGC, while welcoming the participants mentioned that there are four partners in the work of implementation of NPE-1992, namely Government of India, UGC, State Government and Universities and their respective roles have to be delineated so that there is clarity in the thinking of all the four agencies and NPE as also POA can be systematically implemented. The Government welcomes the initiative taken by the UGC to motivate and urge the Universities for effective implementation of the NPE and POA. There is nothing wrong in the reported statement of the Chairman UGC in the Conference of Vice-Chancellors.

Excavation at Pauni in Bhandara District of Maharashtra

4511. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether excavations at Pauni on the bank of Wainaganga in the Bhandara District of Maharashtra is likely to be undertaken during the year 1993-94 under the Archaeological Survey of India, Nagpur;

(b) what are the reasons for not doing further excavation after 1970 in spite of the rich archaeological findings in Pauni including a Stupa, Mauryan and Satvahana artefacts;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Department has spent more money and time on relatively unimportant sites and has wilfully neglected excavations in Pauni; and

(d) what are the details of the plans for archaeological explorations in the Wainaganga Valley?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Nagpur and Archaeological Survey of India had carried out excavations at Pauni, District Bhandara, Maharashtra during the seasons 1968-69 and 1969-70. The excavation brought to light Buddhist stupas and other structures datable to c. 3rd Century B.C. to 3rd century A.D., Chayastambas, Maurya-Brahmi inscriptions, copper plate of Vakatakas and antiquities including sculptures of Buddhist theme in Sunga style, Satavahana-Kshatrapa coins and ceramics such as Northern Black Polished Ware and Red Polished Ware. Since the Cultural sequence of the site has been established and the excavation report has been published, no further excavation is proposed at Pauni by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Archaeological Survey of India has been carrying out problem oriented exploration in Wainganga Vally during the seasons 1989-90, 1991-92 and 1992-93.

Poor maintenance of Taj Mahal and Fatehpur Sikri

4512. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he expressed concern over the poor maintenance of Taj Mahal and Fatehpur Sikri;

(b) if so, what is the present stage of the monuments; and

(c) what action plan has been finalised to save the monuments from deterioration?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE)

(KUMARI SELJA): (a) No sir. However, when Ministry for Tourism and Civil Aviation visited Taj Mahal, he expressed the need for improvements in and around the monument's.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An Action Committee has been informally set up to expedite necessary structural and Fatehpur Sikri.

Opening of Taj Mahal at night

@4513. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration to lift ban on the opening of Taj Mahal during the night for visitors;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(c) when a decision in this regard will be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE)

(KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) The proposal of opening of Taj for visitors during the night is under consideration. A decision would be taken after all the ramifications have been examined.

Fellowship rules of NMML

4514. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules, age and educational qualifications for the award of Research General Fellowships, Chalapati Rau Fellowship, Shrikanth Fellowship of Nehru Memorial Museum and Library of Teen Murti House, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the fellowship rules prohibits fellows from taking another fellowship or assignment, paid or otherwise, during fellows tenure at Nehru Memorial Museum and Library;

(c) whether some fellows have been permitted to take up other fellowships or assignments by keeping their fellowship in abeyance in violation of the aforesaid rule; and

(d) if so, under what rule and what are the names of such fellows and their period for which their fellowships were kept in abeyance?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE)

(KUMARI SELJA): (a) (i) The Fellowships of the Nehru Museum are awarded to scholars who normally possess Ph.D. degree, and or, have substantial research experience to their credit. These are normally awarded to scholars below the age