

recently against the administration of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh is the first integrated steel plant in the southern region. It being a major public sector unit, reports about functioning of VSP often appear in the Press. At times, these reports relate to the functioning of the plant and at others relate to the Personnel Policy followed by the management.

It has been brought to the notice of Government that during September, 1992, reports appeared in the local Press at Visakhapatnam which carried news item alleging injustice done to the locals in the matter of appointments, postings and promotions in the executive posts in VSP. Representations have also been received by Government in such matters. On verification, the allegations have been found to be without any merit.

Seminar on Child Rape

*175. **SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :**

SHRI RAJUBHI A. PARMAR :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that at a seminar on child rape organised by the National Commission for Women in New Delhi on October 6th-7th, 1992, emphasis was laid on grouping child rape under a special category of crime and enacting a special law to deal with it;

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

(c) by which such a law is likely to be brought before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN

SINGH) : (a) One of the suggestions made at the seminar on child rape organised by the National Commission for women on October 6 & 7, 1992 was that the offence of child rape should not be a part of general law but be dealt with by making a separate provision in the Indian Penal Code or in a special law including therein enhanced punishment for the accused of custodial rape when the victim happens to be below the age of 18 years. The separate provision or law should also provide for enhanced punishment for cases covered by sections 376A to 376D of the Indian Penal Code where the victim is below the age of 18 years.

(b) and (c) Do not arise as the recommendations of the Commission in this regard have not been received by the Government.

Progress made in providing Educational facilities in Urban and Rural areas

*176. **SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :**

DR. BAPU KALDATE :

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

(a) what progress has been made by the end of 1991 and since the beginning of 1992 (till date) in respect of providing Pucca school buildings, libraries/book-banks, drinking water and other educational facilities both in the rural and urban areas at various educational levels as against the projection;

(b) which of the State Governments/ Union Territories have shown unsatisfactory progress in this regard; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government to achieve the goal of education for all by the close of the century?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Provision of facilities in schools is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. However, with a view to improve facilities, the Government of India have been assisting the State Governments under the Scheme of Operation Blackboard since 1987-88. Under Operation Blackboard, since the beginning 95,624 class-rooms were constructed till the end

of December, 1992 and an additional 15,353 class-rooms were constructed in 1992 up to the end of September. Along with the school building, the States are also expected to provide drinking water facilities in schools. Under this scheme financial assistance is given for provision of essential teaching/learning equipment including library books and appointment of teachers in primary schools. Under Operation Blackboard, the performance of State varies widely in regard to different components.

(c) The National Policy on Education, 1986, as modified in 1992, resolves to ensure "that free and compulsory education of satisfactory quality is provided to all children upto 14 years of age before we enter the 21st century". The following measures are contemplated to achieve this target :

- (i) Microplanning through a process of community participation and effective decentralization of educational management to the village level;
- (ii) Shifting the emphasis on retention and attainments by monitoring the number of children completing class V and class VII and devising programme to ensure that the minimum level of learning are achieved by all children completing a stage of education;
- (iii) Expansion of facilities and improvement of primary and upper primary schools by expanding the scope of Operation Blackboard;
- (iv) Diversification and improvement of programmes of non-formal education for children who will remain outside the formal school system;
- (v) Strengthening of pre-school components of Early Childhood Care and Education; and

- (vi) Improving and expanding programmes for teacher education by providing network of centres for inservice and continuing education of school teachers.

Accommodation for Artists in Delhi

*177. SHRI PASUNPON THA
KIRUTTINAN :

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that about four hundred artists, who regularly represent India in festivals held abroad, have been waiting for long to get proper accommodation in Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by Government on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that we keep receiving requests for allotment under the artists quota. Due to severe constraints on the availability of accommodation under this quota it has not been possible to accede to their requests.

Production of Seeds by National Seeds Corporation Limited

*178. DR. NARREDDY THULAS REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what were the production target and actuals of certified seeds, foundation seeds and Breeder seeds by National Seed Corporation Limited during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) what are the targets for the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a)

(Quantity in quintals)

	1990-91		1991-92	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
(i) Certified Seed	490470	202846	448600	281524
(ii) Foundation Seed	25900	10487	31961	24661
(iii) Breeder Seed	280.58	151.78	53.10	53.40