

schools recognised or aided by the Government and situated in the Union Territory of Delhi. The admission in aided and Government schools is regulated through Admission Plan. Un-aided recognised schools are permitted under sub-section (3) of Section 18 of Delhi School Education Act, 1973 to collect contribution for specific purposes but the same cannot be linked with admission.

Asiatic Society Building in Calcutta

836. PROF. SAURIN BHATTA CHARYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to declare the old building of Asiatic Society, built in 1805 on Park Street, Calcutta as a National Monument;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the building which is in a crumbling state is the repository of 1,50,000 invaluable books; and

(c) what steps are being taken for the preservation of the building ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SBLJA) : (a) The proposal is under consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Renovation of the old building has been undertaken long back and the work of renovation is almost complete but in order to make the building safe it is necessary to remove the load of heavy racks, books etc. from the first floor of the old building.

Braindrain of Engineers

837. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of engineers are leaving the country because of lack of enough opportunities in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the policies and programmes to contain this braindrain; and

(c) the number of engineers who have left the country during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A number of measures have been taken to attract Indian Scientists and technologists settled abroad to come back to the country. These include temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of Scientists Pool, creation of supernumerary posts, facilities to import equipment by scientists and technological returning from abroad delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to scientific institutions the scheme of transfer of know-how through Expatriate Nationals etc.

(c) No specific data regarding the number of engineers having left the country during last 3 years is available.

Failure of the Project towards Freedom

838. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to starred Question No. 251 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1992 and, state whether any inquiry in the tardy progress made by the I.C.H.R. in the project 'Towards Freedom' has been ordered into; if so, the outcome of the enquiry ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : The progress of the project has been reviewed from time to time. In the last such review held in January 1991, it was decided not to undertake any further funding of the project and a time schedule was drawn up which the I.C.H.R. agreed to follow so as to complete the project. In view of this,

it was decided not to hold any further enquiry at this stage.

Open University/School Education System in the Country

839. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of open Universities together with their location and the number of students enrolled therein;

(b) whether Government propose to expand the open university education sys-

tem and if so, the details of the same; and

(c) whether Government have also decided to expand the National Open School System in the country during the Eighth Plan period, and if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) According to the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), information regarding Open Universities is as follows :

Name	Location	Enrolment
1. Indira Gandhi National Open University	New Delhi	1,45,000
2. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University	Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	
3. Kota Open University	Kota (Rajasthan)	
4. Nalanda Open University	Patna (Bihar)	
5. Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University	Nasik (Maharashtra)	

Cumulative enrolment figures of State Open Universities are not maintained by IGNOU.

(b) and (c) The Open Learning System (OLS) falls within the purview of the thrust areas of the Eighth Plan.

The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 as modified in 1992 envisages the strengthening of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and establishment of more State Open Universities. It also envisages the strengthening of the National Open School (NOS) and extension of Open Learning facilities in a phased manner at the secondary level in all parts of the country.

IGNOU's major thrust would be on introduction of non-traditional employment oriented courses, strengthening of its student support services and improvement of correspondence education. In pursuance of its role as a national apex body for

promotion, coordination and determination of standards in distance education, IGNOU has set up a Distance Education Council (DEC) as a Statutory authority of the University. As specified in the IGNOU Act and as reiterated in POA 1992, IGNOU will also provide financial support to existing as well as new State Open Universities. Detailed guidelines have been framed for this purpose by the DEC.

The National Open School is expected to diversify its courses, accredit vocational institutions in different State/Union Territories, adopt a multi-media instructional strategy, arrange for broad publicity particularly among the rural population and also provide assistance to the Open Schools to be established by the States.

The actual expansion of the Open University/Open School Education system in the Eighth Plan would, however, to a large extent depend on the availability of funds for this purpose and the view taken in the matter by the State Governments.