

components of the project included human resource development, rehabilitation of degraded forest through joint forest management, technological upgradation and bio-diversity conservation.

(b) and (c) The project covered various areas of Madhya Pradesh including areas now part of Chhattisgarh an amount of Rs. 74.74 crores was spent under various components of the project in the various Forest Circles which are now part of the State of Chhattisgarh. The project was completed before the bifurcation of the State of Madhya Pradesh. The calculation of the total loan liability of Chhattisgarh including that for this project is in accordance with the principles laid down for sharing of assets and liabilities between Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh under* the Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000.

Adult and non-formal Education centres

* 364. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of adult and non-formal education centres operating in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether all these centres are operating smoothly;
- (c) if so, whether Government propose to set up more adult the non-formal education centres in States; and
- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Continuing Education Centres (CECs) which targets Adult non-literates and neo-literates in the age group of 15—35 years are established under the scheme of Continuing Education. Under the Scheme, 94,784 Continuing Education Centres have been sanctioned so far in the country for operationalisation including 18,621 in Andhra Pradesh. The efforts of the Government are to bring all the districts of the country under the scheme of Continuing Education by the end of 10th Plan. The powers to sanction Continuing Education Projects are vested in the respective State Literacy Mission Authorities.

The scheme of Non Formal Education has been revised as the

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Education Guarantees Scheme and Alternative & Innovative Education (EGS & AIE), as part of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan targeting the universalisation of Elementary Education for the age group of 6-14 years and made operational w.e.f. 1.4.2001. Hence no funding is being provided to the erstwhile Non Formal Education Centres with effect from 1.4.2001.

The EGS & AIE scheme and District Primary Education Programme provides for opening of Alternative Schools/EGS Centres in habitations which do not have a school within a radius of 1 km and adoption of other strategies to meet the varied needs of out of school children. So far 80,871 Alternative Schools/EGS centres have been sanctioned for operationalisation in the country, including 6,394 in Andhra Pradesh. In addition, 5995 bridge courses have been conducted including 576 in Andhra Pradesh. Further proposals for opening of centres and other interventions under the EGS & AIE are being considered as part of the District Elementary Education Plans.

Khanna Committee Recommendations on CRS

* 365. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khanna Committee has recommended that the Commissioners of Railway Safety (CRS) be appointed by making the selection more broadbased then restricting the same to civil engineers only; and

(b) if so, the action taken to implement the said recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Railway Safety Review Committee (Khanna Committee) in Part-II of their Report has, *inter alia*, recommended that railwaymen from other disciplines directly associated with train operations such as Mechanical, Traffic, Signal and Electrical, should also be eligible for posting as CRS (Commissioner of Railway Safety). The Report of the Committee has already been laid on the table of both houses of Parliament.

(b) Recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.