

(SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA) :

(a) to (c) Realising the potential of education in tackling problems of growing population, a National Population Education Project (NPEP) was launched with effect from April, 1980 designed to introduce population education in the formal education system. Subsequently, NPEP was divided into three parts, namely (i) School and Non-Formal Education, (ii) Adult Education and (iii) Higher Education.

Under the Population Education (School and Non-Formal Education) Project, the population education elements are being integrated into the school syllabi and textbooks. With the technical assistance provided by the National Council of Educational Research and Training, this particular project is being implemented through the Population Education Cells operating in various States and Union Territories.

Sex and family life education has not been the focus of this project, the main emphasis of which is on promotion of attitudes and values in the minds of school students and teachers that have positive impact on observance of small family norm and improvement in quality of life.

Reducing the load of books of children of kindergartens

2193. DR. NARREDY THULASI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kindergarten schools in the country have become torture cells for tiny tots by making the child to carry back load of books and a head load of stuff which do not interest them at all ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are contemplating to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA) :

(a) It is a fact that certain schools, mainly private un-aided ones, introduce textbooks and undertake formal teaching of subjects like language and arithmetic at the Kindergarten or pre-primary stage, resulting in over-burdening the child—both mentally and physically.

(b) NCERT, in the National Curriculum Framework for Elementary and Secondary Education, has suggested that the basic mode of upbringing at the pre-primary stage should be group activities and play-way techniques, language games, number games, etc., to make learning a joyful experience. No textbooks are to be prescribed, and formal teaching of 3—R's and examinations have been discouraged.

Allotment of open space to Mount Carmel School in Anand Niketan

2194. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the National Policy on Education 1986, the open spaces available in Urban areas would be reserved for play grounds ;

(b) if so, the number of such open spaces allotted to different schools in R.K. Puram, Anand Niketan, Shanti Niketan and West Colonies of South Delhi ;

(c) whether it is a fact that M/s. Mount Carmel School in Anand Niketan has also urged Government to allot open space opposite the school for play ground for the benefit of students ; and

(d) when was the representation made and what action Government have taken in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In so far as schools run by Delhi Administration in these areas are concerned, adequate open space is available for the play grounds as per the norms.

(c) and (d) Mount Carmel School had approached M.C.D./D.D.A. in 1984 for allotment of open space available opposite the school. According to the information furnished by the Delhi Administration (Directorate of Education), no response has been received from the concerned authorities regarding allotment of open space to Mount Carmel School. It is for the M.C.D./D.D.A. to decide such individual cases.

Permanent posts of Section Officers in the Central Secretariat Service

2195. **SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 369 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th May, 1990 and state :

(a) the total number of permanent posts of Section Officers as on 1st March, 1990 included in the grade of Section Officer of the Central Secretariat Service, cadre-wise, separately in respect of each cadre of the Central Secretariat Service ; and

(b) the total number of temporary posts of Section Officers which have been in existence since January, 1987 and which are likely to continue indefinitely and are included in the grade of Section Officer of the Central Secretariat

Service, cadre-wise, separately, in respect of each cadre of the Central Secretariat Service ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is not centrally monitored since Section Officers' Grade of the Central Secretariat Service is decentralised and is administered by the various cadre authorities. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Degradation of science research in the country as reported by CAG

2196. **SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the CAG in its recent report has highlighted the collapse of science research in the country; if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that several earlier committees on CSIR have given adverse reports on R&D programme in the country on which no follow-up action has been taken despite existence of high powered SACC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON) : (a) No, Sir. The CAG has commented only on the utilization of funds by some of the Scientific Departments and not on the contents of their research and development programmes.

(b) The Prime Minister in his capacity as President, CSIR, appoints Committees to review the functioning and performance of