

A majority of the training centres for ICDS anganwadi workers are run by voluntary organisations. In March 1988, the State Governments were advised to consider entrusting such centres with the responsibility of actual running of a certain number of anganwadis in their respective areas.

It is for the State Governments to decide to what extent competent voluntary organisations are available in their areas and how far those organisations can be entrusted with implementation of ICDS projects or parts thereof.

Non-Availability of School Text Books in Tamil Nadu

1811. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Primary and Middle School students in Tamil Nadu are not getting their Text Books even one month after the reopening of the schools.

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the position is likely to improve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI) (a) to (c) According to the information received from the Government of Tamil Nadu there is no pending difficulty about supply of text books in Tamil Nadu. 444 lakh school textbooks out of a total requirement of 453 lakh textbooks for the academic year 1988-89 have already been distributed in Tamil Nadu by 25th July, 1988.

Inauguration of MGR University

1812. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inauguration of M.G.R. University

was postponed due to sudden demise of Dr. M.G. Ramachandran on 24th December, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the University is likely to be inaugurated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Tamil Nadu, Act 1987 came into force on 24-9-1987. The Act provided that the first Vice Chancellor and the first Registrar shall be appointed by the State Government within three months from the date of the publication of the Act. However, due to various reasons, including the death of then Chief Minister these appointments could not be made and the University did not become operational by the appointed date.

(c) The date by which the University would become operational is being ascertained from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Education Muddle

1813. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article under the caption "Education Muddle" which appeared in "India Today" dated the 30th June, 1988;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the original allocation of Rs. 20,000 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan period has been slashed to Rs. 6,000 crores;

(c) what is the progress of "operation blackboard scheme" and whether this scheme has received reduced allocation; and