

Financial Assistance to Golconda and Kutabshahi Monuments

1862. PROF. C LAKSHMANNA: "Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider extension of financial assistance to Golconda and Kutabshahi monuments under National Heritage Programme;

(b) whether Government are aware that these Archaeological monuments are under threat of occupation by land grabbers; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take along with Archaeological Survey of India to protect these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The Golconda Fort is Centrally protected and the Kutabshahi tombs are protected by the State Government and are looked after by the Government concerned for maintenance as well as guarding encroachment.

(c) The Central Government has notified the protected limit and privately owned land within the fort has been declared as prohibited for construction purposes. To check encroachments round the clock vigil is maintained in the area.

Railway Officers posted in the Ambala Division of Northern Railway

1863 DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the officers posted in the newly created Ambala Division of the Northern Railway are drawn from Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the officers such as Senior Divisional Accounts Officer, in the aforesaid Division are frequently either on leave or are on tour and thus not available in the office;

(c) what steps Government propose to take by making Government accommodation available at Ambala itself with a view to ensure that the officers are continuously available in the office; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that some officer such as the Senior Divisional Accounts Officers have submitted a representation based on false considerations for transfer back to Delhi; if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Drop-out Rate in Primary and Middle Schools

1864. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present average drop out rate in primary and middle schools in the country and in the State of Orissa; and

(b) what are the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) According to latest available information pertaining in 1981-82, the average dropout rate in the country at primary stage was 50.5% and 72.1% at middle stage. During the same year

the average dropout rate in ' Orissa at primary stage was 63.4% and 82.9% at middle stage.

(b) The National Policy on Education, 1986 give the highest priority to adopting an array of meticulously formulated strategies based on micro-planning to ensure childrens' retention in school. Accordingly, Centrally assisted schemes have been started to (i) provide essential facilities to primary schools through 'Operation Blackboard', (ii) strengthening and reorganisation Of the non-formal education programme to provide education to school dropouts, children from habitations without schools and girls who cannot attend whole day schools, and working children, (iii) reorganise and restructure Teacher Education through establishment of District Institute of Education and Training to increase teacher competence and provide academic support, (iv) new text books in accordance with the National Policy on Education, 1986 are being developed upto elementary level in a time bound programme by NCERT, and State Governments are expected to follow suit. Various incentive programmes like free supply of uniforms to girl students, free mid-day meals, free text books and attendance scholarships are being implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations with varying coverage. It is being attempted to increase the coverage. All these measures together are expected to lead to substantial reduction in dropout rates.

Government Grants to Schools

1865. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides grants, aids, help, assistance to some of the private and public schools of Delhi and elsewhere in the country;

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

(c) what is the percentage of these schools where reservation quotas are fixed for "SC/ST, blinds, disabled and such other classes of people for free education*and other facilities for them in these schools;

(d) whether Government intends to rationalise these schools in view of exploitation of people by these schools; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Nayodaya and Central Schools in Gujarat

1866. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Navodaya and Central schools functioning at present in Gujarat;

(b) what is the number of such schools opened in each districts of Gujarat during 1st January, 1985 to 31st March, 1988;

(c) what are the plans and estimates to open such schools during 1st April 1988 to 31st December, 1990; and

(d) what is the criteria for opening of such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE