

(b) whether Government have convened any meeting of the Secretaries of the Department of Education of the different States; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the discussions held and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Operation Blackboard lays down the minimum level of facilities to be provided in all primary schools. There are three inter-dependent components of the scheme: (i) Provision of at least two reasonably large all-weather rooms with a deep verandah along with separate toilet facilities for boys and girls. The funds for this activity will be provided out of NREP/RLEGP programmes, (ii) Provision of atleast two teachers, as far as possible one of them a woman, in every primary school and (iii) provision of essential teaching and learning material including blackboards, maps, charts, a small library, toys and games and some equipment for work experience.

This scheme is to be implemented in municipal areas as well as community development blocks in all primary schools (viz., schools upto Class IV or V) run by Government, Local bodies, panchayat raj institutions and recognised aided institutions. 20 per cent of the blocks/municipal areas of the State are to be covered in 87-88, 30 per cent in 88-89 and the remaining 50 per cent in 89-90. The deficiencies in the essential items, 2nd teachers and buildings are to be calculated at the block level with regard to each school, on the basis of a survey conducted in the targeted blocks for this year and the Vth All India Educational Survey data for the remaining 2 years. The requirement of funds for each State is to be considered and sanctioned by a State Level Empowered Committee which will also have Government of India represen-

tation. The minimum availability norms and indicative costs of essential items and buildings have been provided to the State Governments.

(b) and (c) A Conference of State Education Secretaries and Directors of Education was convened on 25th April, 1987 in New Delhi. The meeting discussed the following matters—Operation Blackboard; Non-formal Education Programme; Micro level planning for retention; Mass orientation of teachers and District Institutes of Education.

Development of Sports in Villages of Gujarat

1934. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to raise the standard of sports in the villages of the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) whether any steps are being taken to discover and develop natural talents in rural areas that is tribal boys and girls who are naturally good at Archery and whether they are being trained and their skills being developed;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the amount spent in various parts of Gujarat during 1st January, 1986 to 31st October, 1987 for the development of sports, games and youths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) Sports is a state subject and the primary responsibility is of the State Governments. However, with a view to broad base sports in the country, a

number of schemes have been formulated by Government of India and are in poeration viz., development of play-fields, infrastructure, distribution of equipment, posting of coaches, organisation of coaching camps, opening of sports hostels etc. as well as holding of competitions. Under the Special Area Schemes, talent from hitherto untapped areas is being scouted and nurtured and very successful results have been achieved. In regard to Archery, talented 5 boys and 3 girls spotted from the tribal areas have already reached the National level. Special care is being taken for their further training.

(d) Under the Central Scheme of Grants to State Sports Councils for creation of sports infrastructure, a grant-in-aid of Rs. 45.35 lakhs has been approved for the State Government of Gujarat from 1st January, 1986 to 31st October, 1987. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 22.67 lakhs has been released as first instalment and the balance amount will be released on receipt of utilisation certificate and progress report.

Popularisation and preservation of tribal Art and Culture

1935, SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a Master Plan and schemes for the popularisation and preservation of Tribal art and culture;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken to preserve tribal art and heritage;

(c) whether Government have any plans for setting up of any institution in this regard;

(d) if so, by when and where;

(e) what are the budget provisions likely to be made available for the years 1988 and 1989 for this purpose; and

(f) the amount spent in Gujarat and other States during 1st January, 1986 to 31st October, 1987 on the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Neem Oil a safe contraceptive

1936. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which was published in the News-item of September 21, 1987 under the caption "Neem oil a safe contraceptive" regarding efficacy of neem oil as an effective contraceptive;

(b) whether any experiment has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Scientists of Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences, Delhi Cantt, conducted experiment on Neem Oil and claimed Contraceptive efficacy. The ICMR conducted confirmatory studies to prove efficacy in two Centres and results are negative. In addition 'Nimbidin' the Extract of Neem Oil has been found neurotoxic.

अशुद्ध स्त्री-रूपण के लिए मानदण्ड

1937. श्रीमती वीणा शर्मा : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जो व्यक्ति अशुद्ध स्त्रीरूपण करते हैं उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही करने के उद्देश्य से राज्य सभा द्वारा 1986-में पारित अधिनियम की धारा 292-