

(c) No, Sir. No State has formally communicated its refusal to set up Navodaya Vidyalayas but some States have expressed reservations about this scheme in various fora.

(d) No, Sir.

Underweighing of cargo at Indira Gandhi International Airport

275. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHA-WAHA;
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD;

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an organised racket involved in underweighing of bulk cargo before loading has been unearthed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport recently endangering the safety of the aircraft;

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

(c) what is the outcome of the inquiry conducted into the matter; and

(d) what action has been taken proposed to be taken by Government against those involved in the racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Percentage of illiteracy in the country

276. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) what is the percentage of annual rise in illiteracy in the Country and what percentage of illiteracy is anticipated in the country by 2000 A.D.;

(b) the extent to which the rise in the percentage of illiteracy in the country

compares with the percentage of illiteracy in the other developing countries in Asia;

(c) what is the Per capita expenditure incurred on education to raise the percentage of literacy and to what extent it is comparable with the countries like Iran, Canada, USSR and other Asian countries; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government to achieve the literacy target, if any, by 2000 A. D. in view of the present trends and the achievements made so far and the rate of growing population in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The census operations conducted an interval of ten years collect *inter-alia* data pertaining to literacy. According to 1981 census, percentage of illiteracy in the country for population of all age-groups was 63.77 Per cent. This was lower by 6.78 percentage points as compared to the illiteracy rate of 70.55 per cent for 1971. Thus there is no annual rise in the percentage of illiteracy in India. The next national literacy rate will be available only in 1991 when the next census will be conducted.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Per capita expenditure on Elementary (formal and non-formal) and adult education in India is around Rs. 41. India spends about slightly more than 3 per cent of the proportion of grossnational product on education. Comparative per capita expenditure on education in respect of other countries is as under;

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Iran | 5.7 per cent |
| Canada | 8 per cent |
| USSR | 6.6 per cent |
| Iraq | 4.3 per cent |
| Japan | 5.7 per cent |
| Republic of Korea. | 5.1 per cent |
| Pakistan | 2.0 per cent |
| Nepal | 2.1 per cent |