

Wagon Industry

1131. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
 SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:
 SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
 SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
 SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the wagon manufacturing units in the country are facing closure due to lack of sufficient order for wagons by Railways;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railways have projected a wagon off-take of only 4,800 four wheelers in 1985-86 against the installed capacity of 32,412 units a year; and

(c) if so, what are the details and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Railways are not aware about any wagons manufacturing units in the country facing closure due to lack of adequate wagon orders from the Railways. Wagon building units by and large have alternative lines of production and when necessary can do other works by obtaining orders/export orders from other sources.

The total annual installed capacity in the country is 28,040 wagons in terms of four-wheelers—26,040 four-wheelers of the Industry and 2000 four-wheelers of three Railway workshops.

Consistent with the present allocation of funds it is proposed to acquire 5,500 four-wheelers from the Industry and three Railway workshops during 1985-86.

Conversion of Regional Colleges of Engineering into Central Institutes of Technology

1132. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had constituted two committees under Dr. Jaikrishna and Prof. K. Koteswar Rao during 1971-78 to look into the affairs of Regional Colleges of Engineering; if so, what were the findings/recommendations of these committees; and

(b) whether these committees had recommended converting Regional College of Engineering into Central Institutes of Technology, if so what steps have been taken to implement the recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir. The major recommendations of the two committees were as under:—
Dr. Jaikrishna Committee

1. A council of these Colleges should be established by an Act of Parliament with powers to confer degrees and disburse grants;

2. The individual colleges should have autonomous Boards of Governors; and

3. Financing of the Colleges from two sources is not very satisfactory and future financial responsibility for the college should be entirely from the Central source.

Prof. K. Koteswar Rao Committee

(i) There should be uniform service rules and service benefits for the staff in these colleges.

(ii) Pay-scales for teaching and non-teaching staff should be on the pattern of Indian Institute of Technology pay-scales for the corresponding category.

(iii) The staffing pattern for Under-graduate courses should be in the ratio of 1:2:4 for Professors, Asstt. Professors and Lecturers and for Post-graduate courses, 1:2 for Professors and Asstt. Professors.

(b) The Jaikrishna Committee had recommended the re-naming of the Colleges as Central Engineering Colleges. The All India Council for Technical Education, which considered the recommendations of the Committee did not favour such a change.

Improvements in 10 Plus 2 System of Education

1153. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEE-NA; Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in 'The Statesman', New Delhi, of 9th March, 1985 under the caption 'Minus Points of 10+2';

(b) whether any in-depth study of the 10+2 system of education with special reference to its curriculum and the need to further vocationalise it, has been made at any stage; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and the steps being taken to improve the existing set up?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Review Committee in 1977, under the Chairmanship of Shri Ishwarbhai J. Patel, reviewed the curriculum for the 10-year school drawn by the NCERT in 1975. Another Committee, under the Chairmanship of Melcolm S. Adiseshiah, in 1977 reviewed the position regarding vocationalisation of education at higher secondary stage. The NCERT has recently conducted a study 'Curriculum Load at the School level—A quick Appraisal'. Evaluative studies of the implementation of vocationalisation under the 10+2 system have also been conducted by the NCERT

in the States of West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and the Union Territory of Delhi.

The Government have taken the following steps to promote the spread of Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education:

(1) An All India Board of Vocational Education has been constituted under the aegis of the All India Council of Technical Education to oversee the development and the needs of vocational courses all over India and assist the State Govts. as and when required.

(2) The Central Apprenticeship Council, on the request of the Ministry of Education, has decided to amend the existing Apprenticeship Act in order to accommodate the students of the vocational stream by providing a separate category of training.

(3) Apprenticeship facilities have been extended on a pilot basis by the Ministry Education to students of vocational stream. Under this scheme presently 3,000 positions are provided to students of the vocational stream.

(4) The Central Board of Secondary Education is formulating new vocational courses in schools to attract the students in certain promising vocations. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has also been requested to introduce vocational courses in a number of schools located throughout the country as pace-setter institutions.

(5) An Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Education Secretary has been set up by the Ministry of Education to oversee the implementation of the programme of vocationalisation. The Committee has urged upon all States and Union Territories to earmark adequate funds in their Annual Plans for Vocationalisation of education.