

(b) the time likely to be taken for completion of these quarters and by when they are likely to be handed over for occupation; and

(c) the number of said quarters proposed to be handed over to the Parliament Secretariat for allotment to their employees during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI):
(a) 2006.

(b) 70 have been completed and handed over to the Directorate of Estates for occupation in June, 1980. 112 are expected to be handed over during July, 1980. 1415 are likely to be handed over by the end of March, 1981 and remaining 409 are expected to be handed over by June, 1981.

(c) 47 type III/C.

Revival of Book Development Board

1394. SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take to publish text books at cheaper rates so that they can be bought by the poorer sections of the society; and

(b) whether Government propose to revive the Book Development Board; if so, when and in what manner it will be reconstituted?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Production and distribution of school text books and their pricing is the responsibility of State Governments.

To ensure availability of text books in time and at reasonable price, all States except Manipur and Meghalaya have partially or completely nationalised their text books. The Government of India also supplies printing paper at concessional rates for text books. Besides, NCERT supplies its

text books to various Book Banks in different educational institutions at a special discount of 22½ per cent.

To keep the prices of University level books reasonably low, the National Book Trust operates schemes under which publication of University level books in English and Core books in Medical Sciences are subsidised.

(b) The Government do not propose to reconstitute the Board for the present.

Grants for Libraries

1395. SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for which the U.G.C. grants to libraries for the year 1979-80 were cut and continue to be cut this day;

(b) whether Government are aware that the cut situation has not only caused grave crisis in the book industry and trade but has also led to a serious setback in the equipment of university libraries; and

(c) what has been the impact on indigenous publishing by Government's decision taken three years ago to allow import of scientific and technical books and of books required for education being placed on an open general licence?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) According to the information furnished by the UGC, grants for purchase of books and journals by the universities are approved for a plan period as a whole. There have been no cuts in the grants approved by the Commission for this purpose in the Fifth Plan. On the other hand, the universities were allowed to utilise during 1979-80 the un-utilised balances lying with them on this account on 31st March, 1979. However, the Commission did not release any *ad hoc* or

'basic' grants (which include development grants for purchase of books and journals) during 1979-80 to the universities against the likely Sixth Plan allocations. The Commission is at present examining the possibility of sanctioning such grants during 1980-81.

(b) The quantum of grants to universities for purchase of books and journals is not determined on the basis of the support required by the book industry. There have, however, been representations from the publishers for enhancement of the allocations for higher education in the Sixth Plan so that the demand for Indian books by university libraries is not adversely affected. No specific instance of any set-back in equipping university libraries has come to Govt's notice.

(c) The precise impact of the import of certain categories of books under open general licence on indigenous publishing has not been assessed. However, the limits prescribed for import of books under the open general licence is reviewed and modified from time to time.

Demand for a Central School at Bhagalpur

1396. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open a Central School at Bhagalpur; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government are aware that Bhagalpur University Syndicate has decided to donate 10 acres of land for the said school?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Development of radio telephone system

1397. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the development of the radio-telephone system for civil purposes in the country;

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

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) A network of multi channel and single channel radio telephone systems for civil purposes all over the country exists at present and there will be large development of the same in the course of next few years. The development programme will include installation of the following types:—

(i) wideband radio relay systems of large capacity;

(ii) narrowband radio relay systems of medium capacity; and

(iii) ultra high frequency radio systems and very high frequency radio systems of small capacity.

(c) Does not arise.

Payment of P.F. dues to the retired teachers

1398. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the teachers who retired from the Lucknow Deaf and Dumb School in 1978 have not yet been paid their Provident Fund dues;

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

(c) what steps Government are taking in this regard for expediting the payment of their dues?