

Asiatic Society of India, Calcutta

91. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from any quarter for re-organisation of the Asiatic Society of India, Calcutta as it is not working satisfactorily; and

(b) if so, what steps have been or are being taken for the improved functioning of the Society?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The society is an independent body and has to manage its own affairs under its own constitution.

Land reforms in the States

92. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state the State-wise progress of lands reforms during 1976, 1977 and 1978 with particular reference to (i) tenancy reforms and (ii) protection of the rights of tenants bargaders and small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): The progress in distribution of ceiling surplus lands during the years 1976, 1977 and 1978 is given in the statement appended. [See Appendix CVIII, Annexure No. 12]. Nearly all States have enacted legislation to protect tenants from eviction and to end the right of land owners to resume land for self-cultivation and to lower the rent payable by the tenants. States have also taken steps to confer ownership rights on tenants.

Survey on the socio-economic condition of children under 0—14 age

93. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any recent survey of the socio-economic conditions of children under the age group 0—14 years in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARAKATAKI): (a) and (b) The Registrar General of India has initiated a survey on infant and child mortality to study in depth the socio-economic variables affecting mortality among children in the age group 0-6 years. The survey covers 8,00,000 households distributed throughout the country. The field work is expected to be over by April 1979 and the results of the survey made available within the year.

Programme for the welfare of children

94. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any specific time-bound programme for the welfare of children during "International Children Year"; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARAKATAKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has drawn up a National Plan of Action for International Year of the Child, which has been approved by the National Children's Board under the presidentship of the Prime Minister. The National Plan of Action envisages undertaking of specific programmes in the field of—

- (i) health and nutrition
- (ii) education