

Suggestion regarding a separate UGC for South

1518. SHRI T. ANJIAH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a Statement reported to have been made by the Education Minister of Andhra Pradesh suggesting the setting up of a separate University Grants Commission for the South; and

(b) if so, what is the Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, representations were made to the State Education Minister that a University Grants Commission for the four Southern States would more effectively serve those areas. The State Education Minister suggested that the request deserved consideration and necessary examination. The State Government has, however, not taken any action in the matter so far.

As the Government have not received any proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Government, the question of its reaction does not arise.

Distribution of levy sugar in villages

1519. SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the levy sugar is distributed in villages through fair price shops; if so, what is the quantity of sugar issued per unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION:

CULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANUPRATAP SINGH):

In accordance with the decision taken on 27th October, 1977, the Statewise monthly levy sugar quotas were refixed from December, 1977, with reference to the projected population as on 1-4-1978 ensuring 425 grams of monthly per capita availability. All the State Governments were also advised to gear up the distribution machinery to ensure distribution at the enhanced level and also to treat the rural and urban population in a similar manner for the purpose of distribution of levy sugar. 23 State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have informed that similar scale for distribution of levy sugar for urban and rural population has been introduced. However, depending upon the number of ration card units, the scale of distribution would differ from State to State.

Nursery education in the educational programmes of government

1520. SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nursery education does not find any place in the educational policy and programmes formulated by the Central and the State Governments;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no separate organization at the Centre or at the State level for nursery education and that no separate allocation is made for the purpose in the Plans and the Budget;

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

(d) what steps Government are taking to give due place to nursery education in Government's educational policy?