

(b) The objective of the Scheme is to make available to students books in Indian languages, at university level, at reasonable prices as in the case of books in English.

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

163. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH : Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cities where Central Schools have so far been opened; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on these schools during the last year ?

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

(a) A statement is attached. [See Appendix CI. Annexure No. 11]

(b) The total expenditure on maintenance of these schools (including the expenditure on administration and construction Works) amounted to Rs. 14.14 crores (approx.) during 1976-77.

FINDINGS OF THE NARMADA TRIBUNAL

164. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state by when the findings of the Narmada Tribunal are likely to be available ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PARKASH SINGH BADAL) : Every effort is being made by the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal to complete its work as expeditiously as possible. According to present indications the report of the Tribunal is expected to be available in a year or thereabout.

DAMAGE TO SHRI JAIPRAKASH NARAYAN'S KIDNEYS

165. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Shri Jayprakash Narayan's kidneys got damaged while he was under detention at Chandigarh ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ-NARAIN) : The Government of India have already constituted a one man Commission to inquire into the circumstances leading to Shri Jayprakash Narayan's renal dys-function which set in during the period of his detention after the declaration of emergency on the 25th June, 1975.

AMENDMENT TO DRUGS AND COSMETICS ACT

166. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :
SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend the Drugs and Cosmetics Act; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the amendments proposed to be made and the objectives sought to be achieved thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ-NARAIN) : (a) Yes.

(b) Some of the salient features of the amendments proposed in the draft bill are :—

(i) revised definition of spurious drugs;

(ii) scheme of penalties being modified on rational basis. Minimum and maximum penalties provided for more serious offences;

(iii) provision for life imprisonment has been made where it is proved that the use of an adulterated, spurious or sub-standard drug has caused grievous hurt or death;

(iv) the powers of Drugs Inspectors are being enhanced to enable them to check the trade of spurious drugs;

(v) the constitution of the Drugs Advisory Committee is being made mandatory on the part of the States. Representatives from the consumers will be