MEDIA OF INSTRUCTIONS IN GAUHATI
AND DIBRUGARH UNIVERSITIES

869. DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI:
SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:
SHRI PRANAB KUMAR
MUKHERJEE:
SARDAR AMJAD ALI:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state: (a) whether it is a fact that the universities of Gauhati and Dibrugarh in Assam are going to introduce Assamese as media of instruction in the colleges and universities in disregard of the Sashtri Formula which guarantees the linguistic rights of the Non-Assamese speaking people of Assam in general and Bengali speaking people in particular; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the linguistic rights of the Bengali speaking and other linguistic minorities of Assam to receive education in their own mother tongue?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION. SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) The Gauhati University has taken a decision to switch over to the Regional Language as the medium of instruction at the Pre-University stage from the 1972-73 academic session. It has, however, been provided that the medium of instruction at this stage shall be either English or Assamese and that option will be given to the students to answer questions in English or Assamese or Bengali. As regards Dibrugarh University, the medium of instruction will be Assamese for the Pre-University course from the 1972-73 session and for the degree course from the 1974-75 session. The students shall, however, have the option to write answer scripts in Assamese or English.

(b) The medium of instruction examination is prescribed by the Universities. It is, however, for the State Governments to safeguard the interests of linguistic minorities.

PRINCIPAL OF DEWAN CHAND ARYA
HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

870. SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state: (a) whether it is a fact that the Principal of Dewan Chand Arya Higher Secondary School, Lodi Road, was held guilty of charges of mis-appropriation, embezzlement, mis-appropriation of public funds, administrative infficiency and gross misconduct, by Government;

- (b) whether it is also a fact that the said Principal was let off unpunished by punishing Authority and that he still continues to be the Principal of the said school;
- (c) what are the reasons for not taking any action against him.
- (d) whether the Principal is again indulging in the same malpractices; and
- (e) if the answers to (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, what further action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) and (c) The Punishing Authority is inquiring into the matter. However, in accordance with an interim decision taken by the Punishing Authority, the Principal of the school was allowed to resume duty with effect from 10-12-1970.
- (d) No such complaint has been received by the Delhi Administration.
- (c) The Delhi Administration has advised the Punishing Authority to take a final decision urgently.