

FREE EDUCATION UP TO HIGHER SECONDARY STAGE

167. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States/Union Territories in which free education up to Higher Secondary stage has been introduced; and

(b) whether there was a proposal to extend the Scheme to the Union Territory of Delhi; if so, the decision taken in the matter?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD):

i(a) Andhra Pradesh (for girls only).

Jammu and Kashmir. Madhya Pradesh (for girls only). Madras. Mysore (up to X standard).

Orissa (for girls, children of primary school teachers and State Class IV employees and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes).

Punjab (for certain categories *e.g.* for girls and for children of backward and Harijan classes subject to prescribed income conditions).

Uttar Pradesh (only for girls up to X Class).

West Bengal (Up to X Class for tribal and Scheduled Castes pupils with low literacy percentage).

Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Dadra & Nagar Haveli. Uaccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands.

N.E.F.A.

Pondicherry (for girls only).

(b) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

TELEGRAPH/PUBLIC TELEPHONE OFFICE AT DHAMETA

168. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the equipment for the installation of a Telegraph/Public Telephone office had been installed at Dameta Post Office, District Kangra in 1963-64 but it has not yet started operating;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the scheme has since been abandoned; if so, the infructuous expenditure involved therein; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, by when it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) (a) No. Wires and equipment for telegraph working only have been installed at Dhameta which has, however, not started operating so far.

(b) Dhameta being an Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, requires the availability of either an extra departmental signaller or upgradation to a Departmental Post Office which would permit the posting of a departmental signaller. An Extra Departmental signaller has not been available at this station.

(c) No. The Department proposes to introduce telegraph working and also to open a P.C.O. Independently of this case, there is a proposal to upgrade the Post Office for which the extra loss has to be borne by the village. An alternative will be to complete the P.C.O. project also for which an additional 6J miles of pair of wires have to be erected. When this is done, the office can work on extra departmental basis for the P.C.O. and telegraph on phonocom basis.