

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) To start with, the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation are arranging to set up Particle Board factories in Dandakaranya and in the Dehra Dun—Hardwar area. Data about availability of species of timber required for Hard Board and Plywood are now being collected as a part of a pre-Investment Survey. The question of expanding the Particle Board factories into a Wood Working Complex will be considered after the data have been gathered.

(b) The detailed schemes for the Particle Board factories are under preparation. After the schemes are ready, the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation will fix the targets for completion of the factories.]

SUCCESSION TO SUKET GADDI

190. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken about the succession to the Suket Gaddi in the Himachal Pradesh :

(b) if not, whether there is any dispute regarding the succession ; and

(c) whether any representations have been received by Government in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) to (c) No question of succession to the gaddi of Suket in Himachal Pradesh has arisen.

PROTEST AGAINST THE SETTING UP OF INDO-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

191. SARDAR RAM SINGH :
SHRI A. D. MANI :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that fifty-four heads of departments/professors of Delhi University have represented to Government against the creation of the Indo-American foundation with PL-480 rupee funds ;

(b) if so, on what grounds the creation of the foundation has been opposed ; and

(c) what are the Government's reactions thereto ?

f[J English translation.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA) : (a) and (b) The Government received copy of the statement issued by the professors of Delhi University against the creation of an Indo-American Education Foundation. A copy of the statement is attached. (*See below*).

(c) While the basic concept of the Foundation is sound and a good deal of the criticism is based on misunderstanding, the Government intend giving the utmost weight in the detailed negotiations to points over which concern has been expressed by educationists and intellectuals in this country.

STATEMENT Issued by the Professors of Delhi University regarding the creation of an Indo-American Education Foundation. President Johnson has recently announced that PL 480 Rupee Funds will be used for the creation of an Indo-American Foundation "with distinguished citizens of both countries on the Board of Directors ... to promote progress in all fields of learning to advance science, to encourage research, to develop new techniques in farm and factory, to stimulate new way* to meet age-old problems."

This announcement has caused us the most serious misgivings. We feel compelled to give expression to our views which, we are sure, will be widely shared by the public in the country.

Before we express our misgivings, however, we wish to make it clear that we appreciate the advantage from international co-operation in education and from a free exchange of ideas particularly with a country such as the United States which leads in many branches of science and knowledge today.

But we have strong objections to any proposal which would imply the intimate involvement of any foreign government in matters affecting our educational policy, especially when sums very large in relation to our total expenditure on education are proposed to be spent. It is obvious that the educational system significantly influences cultural, social and political values. The intimate involvement of any foreign government with our educational policy would inevitably undermine in the long run the system of values we cherish.