

ALL INDIA EDUCATIONAL SERVICE

26. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 97 in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st November, 1968 and state:

(a) the progress so far made in constituting the All India Educational Service;

(b) the names of States which have not favoured the creation of this Service; and

(c) the time by which the Service is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): (a) The matter is under consideration in consultation with the State Governments;

(b) Madhya Pradesh, Madrai and Maharashtra; and

(c) Efforts are being made to secure the agreement of these States. After their agreement has been secured, the necessary legislation will be sponsored in Parliament.

ELECTION PETITIONS FILED WITH ASSAM HIGH COURT

XI. SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) the number of election petitions which were filed with the Assam High Court in respect of election to the LOK Sabha held in 1962;

(b) the number of petitions disposed of so far; and

(c) the number of petitions pending at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW (SHRI BIBUDHEN-DRA MISRA) : (a) None, Sir, as there is no provision in the Law for any election petition being filed before a High Court.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SULPHURIC ACID

28. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total consumption of sulphuric acid during the years 1960, 1961 and 1962;

(b) what were the requirements of the fertilisers industry of sulphuric acid during the above period; and

(c) what is the quantity of sulphur required for the manufacture of sulphuric acid; and whether any quantity thereof is imported; if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI O. V. ALAKESAN): (a) the total consumption of sulphuric acids in the country during the years 1960, 1961 and 1962 was 3,54,000, 4,22,500 and 4,69,500 tonnes, respectively;

(b) The requirements of the fertiliser industry of sulphuric acid during the years 1960, 1961 and 1962 were 1,96,000, 2,45,000 and 2,63,000 tonnes, respectively;

(c) Roughly one tonne of sulphur is required for production of 3 tonnes of sulphuric acid. There are no known sources of elemental sulphur in the country and the entire requirements of this chemical are met by imports. The imports of sulphur during the three years 1960, 1961 and 1962 were 1,79,071, 91,433 and 2,48,031 tonnes respectively.

CONSTRUCTION OF YOUTH HOSTELS

29. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the actual amount spent on the construction of Youth Hostels in the first two years of the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) what steps are being taken for the full utilisation of the provision for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER * THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN): (a) Rs. 1,97,000.

(b) As grants-in-aid given to State Governments and voluntary organisations for setting up Youth Hostels have not produced encouraging results, the Government of India are considering a proposal to put up Youth Hostels in selected places as direct projects, on which the entire provision should be utilised.

HIGH PERCENTAGE OF FAILURES IN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION;?

SO. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main reasons for the high percentage of failures in University Degree Course examinations; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to remedy this situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN): (a) High percentage of failures in University Degree Course Examinations is not universal; it is confined to certain stages only. Some of the main reasons for such failures are:

- (i) Non-selective process of admissions in the universities and colleges;
- (ii) Inadequacy of properly qualified teaching staff, both in terms of quantity and quality;
- (iii) Non-availability of proper facilities in the libraries and laboratories;
- (iv) Present system of examinations.

(b) The Government has taken several steps to remedy the situation:

- (i) The most comprehensive single step was the introduction of the three-year Degree Course Scheme, under which recurring and non-recurring grants were given to universities to enable them to revise syllabuses, introduce general education courses, reduce overcrowding in classes, improve teacher-pupil ratio, strengthen laboratories, replenish libraries and, wherever possible, institute tutorial system;
- (ii) The introduction of a scheme to upgrade the salary scales of college teachers to improve the quality of teachers;
- (iii) The setting up by the University Grants Commission of a committee to study the question of improving the system of examination. The report of this committee has been published and circulated to all the universities for their comments;
- (iv) Assistance to universities and colleges for the improvement of laboratory and library facilities.

SETTING UP REFINERIES ON EAST COAST

31. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up two more refineries on the East Coast;
- (b) if so, the places where these refineries are proposed to be set up; and
- (c) what is the present position in the matter?