Rs. 250004 from 1995-96. The fund was meant for the purpose of purchase of raw materials and marketing, honorarium to group organizer, infrastructure support for income generating and other group activities etc. The fund was shared equally by the Central Government and State Governments on 50-50 basis. In the case of Union Territories, Government of India provided cent per cent grant. (Prior to 1996-97, expenditure on Revolving Fund was shared between Central Government, State Government and UNICEF on 40:40:20 basis).

Since inception upto 1998-99 a total of 2,72,722 groups were formed under DWCRA comprising 41,44,705 members. The central funds released to States/UTs during this period were Rs. 389.90 crore.

(c) and (d) DWCRA groups of quality can be adopted in SGSY. The SGSY guidelines already provided for that. DRDAs have to put in concerted efforts to strengthen the groups formed under DWCRA during first year of SGSY.

Women and Child Welfare Schemes in Bihar

†735. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of women and child welfare schemes in Bihar sponsored by the Central Government during the last three years;
- (b) the amount allocated for the above schemes during the said period;
 - (c) whether the allocated amount was utilised; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

RAJYA SABHA

SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Details of the schemes are as given in statement-I (See below)

(b) to (d) Details of amount released and utilised are given in statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of women and child welfare schemes in Bihar

1. World Bank Assisted ICDS Project

This project is being implemented since September 1993. It aims to improve the nutritional and health status of per-school children, particularly the children under 3 years of age and the pregnant and lactating women. It is being implemented in 210 blocks in predominantly tribal and difficult areas in a phased manner. The project is due to conclude in September 2000.

2. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

ICDS aims to improve the nutritional and health status of vulnerable groups including pre-school children, pregnant women and nursing mothers through providing a package of services including supplementary nutrition, pre school education, immunization, health check-up, referral services and nutrition and health education.

3. Balika Samriddhi Yojana

The Balika Samriddhi Yojana (BSY) was launched in October 1997 to extend financial help to the families to whom a girl child is born and if they are living below poverty line during 1997-98 and 1998-99. The State Government disburse the grants to the girl children through the ICDS infrastructure in the ICDS areas and in non ICDS areas through the implementing agencies.

4. WB assisted ICDS Trg.—UDISHA

Training is the most crucial element in ICDS. Recognizing this, from the inception of the ICDS, Government of India formulated a

^{*} In respect of schemes implemented by Deptt. of Women and Child Development.

comprehensive training strategy for different functionaries involved in the ICDS such as Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Helpers, Supervisors, Assistant Child Development Project Officers, and CDPOs. UDISHA envisages the upward revision of financial norms, integration and coordination of training of ICDS functionaries and revision of training syllabus. It also has a component for innovative training. The project is being implemented in Bihar State since 1998-99.

5. Rural Women's Development and Empowerment (Swa-Shakti) Project

This project was sanctioned on 16 October 1998 for a period of 5 years. The over all objective of the project is to strengthen the processes and create an environment for empowerment of women through the establishment of Self Help Groups which will improve the quality of their lives, through greater access to, and control over, resources.

Statement-II

Grant released and utilised during the last three years in the state of Bihar#

(Rupees in Crores)

Name of the Scheme	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Funds released	Exp. incurred	Funds released		Funds released	Exp. incurred
1. World Bank assisted ICDS	35.00	29.77	51.31	55,61+	39.36	48.58+
2. Integrated Child Development. Schemes (ICDS)	14.69	39.60\$	36.91	35.68	49.19	37.92

[#] In respect of schemes implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development.

⁺includes some expenditure incurred in the earlier years.

^{\$} Excess expenditure is owing to the implementation of the recommendation of the Fifth Pay Commission by the States and enhancement in the amount of honorarium paid to the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers effected during 1997-98 onwards.

(Rupees in Crores)

Name of the Scheme	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Funds released	Exp. incurred	Funds released	Exp. incurred	Funds released	Exp. incurred
3. Balika Samriddhi Yojana (BSY)	10.69	•	6.31	2.63**	7.12	\$\$
4. WB assisted ICDS TrgUDISHA		0.23@	1.00	0.28	1.50	0.57
5. Rural Women's Development. & Empowerment (Swa- Shakti) Project	0.02	0.02	0.98	0.03	0.40	0.11

Rate of Drop-out Students

*†736. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of dropout students in the country is very high;
- (b) if so, percentages of drop-out students in schools and colleges upto primary, middle, secondary, higher secondary and higher educational levels separately in the country;
- (c) whether Government have ascertained the reasons for such a large number of drop-outs at each level; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) As per the

- * included under 1998-99
- ** Rs. 2.63 crore is the total expenditure incurred during 1997-98 and 1998-99
- \$\$ utilisation position not received from State.
- @ expenditure incurred out of earlier savings.
- t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.