

- (i) Setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in the universities and academic institutions.
- (ii) Creation of core groups of professionals with necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.
- (iii) S&T based training for entrepreneurial development.
- (iv) Increase in the outlay for science and technology sector in successive Five Year Plans.
- (v) Manpower development training/re-training programmes through associateships/fellowships/courses.
- (vi) Provisions for temporary placement of scientists and technocrats under the scheme of scientists pool.
- (vii) Creation of supernumerary posts.
- (viii) Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of S and T.
- (ix) Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientists.
- (x) Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST) fellowship to visit International laboratories and institutions.
- (xi) Award of scholarship under Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahyan Yojana for talented science students.

Anganwadi buildings in Kerala

3255. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Anganwadi buildings sanctioned to Kerala under World Bank assisted Centrally Sponsored ICDS project phase-III;

(b) how many buildings have been completed, so far, and how many among them are remaining to be completed in Kerala;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala requested to reschedule the time frame for the completion of construction; and

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(d) whether Government consider to accord sanction for the construction of remaining buildings; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) 3200 Anganwadi buildings were originally sanctioned, in April 1999, to Kerala under the World Bank assisted ICDS-III Project. Later on, in October 2000, at the request of the State Government, the number of buildings was reviewed and changed to 1600.

(b) As per information available from the State Government, 1140 buildings have been completed till 31-5-2003. 460 buildings are remaining to be completed.

(c) No request to reschedule the time-frame for the completion of construction has been received from the Government of Kerala.

(d) There is no requirement to accord fresh sanction for the construction of the remaining 460 buildings.

Representation received from Chartered Accountants Association

3256. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation from any Chartered Accountants Association for not allowing US based accountancy firms to practice in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) As informed by the Ministry of Finance, the Convenor of Chartered Accountants Action Committee (CAAC) in his letter, forwarding the 'White Paper on Multinational Accounting Firms (MAFs) Operating in India', has *inter alia* suggested that MAFs be banned from undertaking any audit or other attestation work directly or through their surrogates, that MAFs be not allowed to operate as consultants in India unless the countries in and from which the MAFs operate allow the Indian