

and created at Jaipur. Such facilities are not available at Divisional Offices both at Ajmer and Jaipur.

(c) Does not arise.

### **IGNOU courses for Assam Rifles**

\*758. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

(a) whether IGNOU has signed an MoU with Assam Rifles, Shillong, aiming at development of human resource capital of the Force, as reported in the Times of India of 29th April, 2002.

**(b) if so, the areas of development, duration of the course, place where the courses would be conducted and the number of officers and other ranks who would be imparted training, with cost involved; and**

(c) whether similar proposals of other States are pending with IGNOU, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between IGNOU and Assam Rifles, Shillong on 20th April, 2002. Their duration of programme range from one month for computer literacy programme to three years for Bachelor's degree programme. The place, number of officers to be trained and the cost involved can be indicated only after the specific details are worked out.

(c) No, Sir.

### **Meals to children in Karnataka**

\*759. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Karnataka Government has submitted a project proposal for Government's approval and release of funds therefor,

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for providing cooked hot meals to the children belonging to the Scheduled Castes, under the centrally sponsored scheme for providing nutritional support to primary school children; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per Government of Karnataka, no project proposal has been sent to the central Government for release of funds for providing cooked meals to the children belonging to Scheduled Castes under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-day Meal Scheme).

In a recent letter to the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister of Karnataka has requested for formulation of a scheme for 100% Central assistance to help implement the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court passed in WP(C) 196/2001 dated 28.11.2001.

The Government has already conveyed to the States/UTs that under the scheme the cost of conversion of foodgrains into a cooked meal is to be borne by the States Implementing Agencies.

#### **Vacant Post of Vice-Chancellor**

\*760. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as eleven Central Universities have been working without Vice-Chancellor for over a year now;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when the post of Vice-Chancellor has been lying vacant in each University; and

(c) what are the reasons for delay in the above mentioned appointments and by when these are likely to be filled-up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir. As on date on post of Vice-Chancellor in any of the Central Universities is vacant.

(b) and (c) The question do not arise.