

(a) whether it is a fact that while deciding upon a PIL in November, 1998, the High Court of Delhi had pointed out that Special Dispensation Quota of MPs in Kendriya Vidyalayas could be valid if it was restricted to the constituency/State of the Member concerned;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated a modified provision in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A scheme has been formulated wherein each Hon'ble M.P. can recommend two cases for admission to such children of parents who belong to his constituency either by domicile or on account of having posted there or migrated due to exigencies of service from the academic session 2000-2001 in a KV within his constituency.

श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को एम.पी. का स्पेशल कोटा बहाल करने के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ। ... (व्यवधान)

श्री नरेश यादव: महोदय, यह खरीद-फरोख्त का मसला ... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सरोज दुबे: महोदय, बिहार में जो हो रहा है ... (व्यवधान)

श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी: मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ... (व्यवधान)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Import Duty on Sugar

*221. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to raise import duty on sugar to 60 per cent; and

[10 March, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Import Duty was increased to 60% with effect from 9.2.2000 to discourage imports of sugar which were having an adverse effect on the domestic industry and keeping in view the comfortable domestic production and stocks and the falling trend in the international prices of sugar. It will also enable the sugar mills to pay the cane price dues of farmers in time.

Bamboo plantation project in Assam

*222. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for taking up bamboo plantation project in rural and tribal areas of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise and area-wise;

(c) the total outlays allocated for the same alongwith the present status of implementation of the proposal; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for not taking steps in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):(a)Yes,Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Assam has been asked to send a project proposal for bamboo plantation for a total cost of Rs. 2.00 crores. The project is awaited.

(d) Does not arise.

Assistance to Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology

*224. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have so far sanctioned any assistance for procuring equipments or medicines for poor patients or for construction of hospital building to Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and