

[10 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

reservation for women in professional courses, including those in management. Information with regard to reservation for women in Medical courses is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Adult Literacy Rate

1049. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present adult literacy rate in country, State-wise;
- (b) how does this compare with other developing countries in the world;
- (c) whether any proposal to launch new programmes, aimed at increasing adult literacy in the country, is under consideration of Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL):

(a) According to the National Sample Survey Organisation in the 53rd round the literacy rate in the country State-wise, during 1997 is given in the enclosed statement (*see* below).

(b) India has now outstripped countries such as Nigeria, Iraq, Egypt, Ghana, Saudi Arabia and Uganda and is far a head of its neighbours, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.

(c) and (d) No proposal to launch any new programme to raise the adult literacy rate in the country is envisaged. However, several steps have been taken to revamp and reorient the adult literacy programmes which include the enhanced focus on female literacy; greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations; strengthening of State Resource Centres; opening of Shramik Vidyapeeths in rural areas; decentralisation of financial and administrative powers to State Literacy Mission Authorities; ensuring better follow up and consolidation through extending the programme of post literacy and continuing education etc.

Condition of National library, Calcutta

†1050. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Library located in Calcutta is facing many Problems and is in a miserable condition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government have taken/are going to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) It is not correct to state that the National Library at Calcutta is in a miserable condition. A new building is under construction and repair work of the main building is in progress. Modernisation of library, including computerisation and digitalization has been taken up. A new set of recruitment rules for all categories of staff has been proposed.

Rules of KVS for Nomination of Board of Governors

†1051. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to answer to Unstarred Question 2079 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd July, 1998 and state:

(a) the reasons or necessary circumstances under which Rule 3(b) of KVS was deleted;

(b) what necessitated the amendment of Rule 19(9) and what are the details of the amended Rule; and

(c) what was the justification for terminating membership of the nominated members, who were nominated on 31-12-91, before completion of their tenure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The Board of Governors in its meeting on 6.9.93 while considering a proposal from the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs on the Ministry of Human Resource Development to provide for nomination of SCs and STs on the KVS and its BOG, resolved to delete Rule 3(b) to do away with the open ended nature of the provisions for nominations so as to prevent the Sangathan from being unwieldy. Rule 19(9) was amended to ensure that such nominations would include at least one member from SCs, STs and

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