

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of the floating of the Working Children's National Federation in New Dehi on 14th November, 1999 observed as Children's Day. However, as per 1991 Census, the number of working children in the country is 11.28 million. Industry-wise number of Child Labour are not maintained.

Committee on Fundamental Duties

1792. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the duties and functions of Committee on fundamental duties set up under the chairmanship of Justice J.S. Verma, former Chief Justice of India;

(b) whether the said Committee is a recommending Committee or a functional one; and

(c) what are the terms of reference and duration of that Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The Government of India constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Justice J.S. Verma, former chief Justice of India to "operationalize the suggestions to teach Fundamental Duties to the citizens of the country" and also work out methodology of operationalising the programme for teaching.

It is a recommending Committee and the terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:—

- (i) to develop a package for teaching fundamental duties at primary, secondary, senior secondary and University level.
- (ii) to decide the activities as part of curriculum and co-curricular activities.
- (iii) to review the existing programme already being implemented by NCERT under the National Curricular Framework and the need for identifying additional inputs to it.

- (iv) to develop programme packages for pre-service/in-service training of teachers at various levels.
- (v) to develop a separate package for the training of citizens through non-formal education/adult education programme/media (print, electronic etc.).

The Committee resolved to complete the task as far as possible within one year and the same has been completed.

Quality of Technical Education

†1793. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any special campaign has been launched to bring improvement in the quality of technical education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps are being taken to strengthen the Technical Education Board by reconstituting it;
- (d) the number of proposals received in this regard from Madhya Pradesh and the number of proposals accepted out of those;
- (e) whether Government have initiated any scheme for the propagation of technical education in country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (f). The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was given statutory status under the AICTE Act, 1987 for making improvement in the quality of Technical Education. The AICTE ensourse continuous improvement in the development of technical education in a planned and coordinated manner through various Boards of studies and the National Board of Accreditation. The AICTE has since notified Regulations aimed at qualitative as well as quantitative improvement of technical education at all levels in the country. In so far as the States are concerned, the Technical Education Boards are the constituent units of the respective State Governments. There is no proposal from Madhya Pradesh for strengthening or reconstitution of their Technical Education Board.

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.