

3. The efforts be made for proper cataloguing of all available unpublished manuscripts now lying in dumps within Satras and getting deteriorated due to lack of scientific knowledge.

4. The building which are more than 100 years old shall be got declared as heritage buildings and immediate action deserves to be taken to save them for posterity.

5. Flood Control measures to be taken up as a challenge instead of surrendering to the vagaries of nature by simple words "natural calamities".

According to the recommendations of the expert nominated by the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Majuli Island, no doubt, is a special physiographical site where a five centuries old cultural tradition co-exist with Nature.

The special features of Majuli, as per the Report, are:

1. Majuli is probably the biggest river island in the World.

2. Majuli is probably the largest riverine delta system in the World. The listing Majuli Island in the World Heritage List would be subject to it meeting the criteria laid by the UNESCO Convention on World Heritage Site and it being accepted by the Committee set up under the Convention.

Implementation of Haksar Committee Recommendations

2902. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA
PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 145, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th June, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the Lalit Kala Academy was taken over in the wake of their commitment regarding implementation of Haksar Committee Recommendations;

(b) if so, why Government have gone against their words and instead of implementing these recommendations, decided to implement recommendations of Lalit Kala Academy Administrator; and

(c) were the recommendations of Lalit Kala Academy Administrator formulated after as wide consultations as that of Haksar Committee?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) A number of complaints of mismanagement, irregularities, misuse of funds, favoritism, etc. by the then management of the Lalit Kala Akademi (LKA) were brought to the notice of the Government. The Government inquired into these allegations which revealed a number of irregularities. Based on the findings of the inquiry and special audit, the management of the Lalit Kala Akademi was taken over in the public interest. One of the incidental reasons for take over was also the resistance of the then Management of the Akademi in implementing the recommendations of the Haksar Committee.

(b) Government has approved amendments to Memorandum of Association (MOA) of Lalit Kala Akademi broadly on the lines of the Haksar Committee recommendations with a view to ensuring balance between autonomy and public accountability.

(c) The recommendations of the Administrator-Lalit Kala Akademi were based on wide ranging consultations with artists as well as the Advisory Committee of the Lalit Kala Akademi.

Provision of Special Dispensation Admissions

2903. SHRI JALALUDDIN ANSARI:

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

(a) whether Government have gone in Appeal to Supreme Court challenging

Delhi High Court Order annulling the provision of Special Dispensation Admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

- (b) if so, the result thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The question of filing an appeal against the judgement of Delhi High Court annulling the Scheme of Special Dispensation Admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas was considered in the Department and it has been decided not to file an appeal in the matter.

Non-availability of funds for making education a fundamental right

2904. **SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:**
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Plan to make elementary education a Fundamental right—where is fund: Empty coffers tell the tale", as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 17th February, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have decided to make elementary education a fundamental right, but adequate funds are not made available to State Governments to implement the scheme; and

(c) if so, the further reaction of Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) The Constitution (Eighty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make the right to free and compulsory education for children from 6 to 14 years

of age a Fundamental Right was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997. The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development which has proposed some modifications. It is felt that a wider public debate on the implications of the proposed legislation should be initiated. As such the question of allocation of funds to State Governments for this purpose does not arise.

Funds for Educational Programme in Andhra Pradesh

2905. **DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:**
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has reminded for release of funds for two school education and child welfare schemes under the District Primary Education Programme and Integrated Child Development Scheme;

(b) the reasons for delay in releasing the funds; and

(c) by when the funds are proposed to be released?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) No such reminder was received from Andhra Pradesh Government for release of grant under Integrated Child Development Scheme. However, an amount of Rs. 4676.50 lakhs was released to the State of Andhra Pradesh during financial year 1998-99 for the continued implementation of the Centrally Sponsored ICDS Scheme. Out of this Rs. 1550 lakhs was released for World Bank Assisted Project as a part of Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Programme. As regards DPEP scheme, during 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 20 crores has been released as Government of India share to the Andhra Pradesh Pradhmanika Vidya Parishad (AP-DPEP).