

has represented India in the 4th World Cup held at Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1978. However, the Government is not aware of the present economic condition/avocation of Sri Bhengra.

(b) and (c) Under the scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons, Government provides pension upto Rs. 2500/- p.m. and lump sum financial assistance upto Rs. 40,000/- for medical treatment to the outstanding sports persons living in indigent condition. Financial assistance upto Rs. 40,000/- is also given to the families of outstanding sportspersons in indigent circumstances.

Bill for Free and Compulsory Education

570. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

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

(a) whether education being the back bone of the society and the country the Bill recommending education free and compulsory for children between 6 to 14 year, covering approximately 63 million children of the opportunity to get free education, will be tabled in this session;

(b) what are the major reasons for delay; and

(c) which are the States where primary education is very poor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Constitution (Eighty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make right to free and compulsory education for children in the age group of 6 to 14 years a Fundamental Right has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997.

(c) According to available information the gross enrolment ratios are lower and drop out rates are higher than the national average at primary level in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar.

J&K, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Cut in UGC Funds

571. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Hindustan Times of 3rd February, 1999 captioned "U.G.C. faces crisis as Government cuts funds" by giving only 80 per cent of the required funding to all the autonomous institutions;

(b) whether University Grants Commission is pleading for 100% funding till the end of this financial year otherwise all the educational institutions under it would not be able to pay salaries to their staff, including U.G.C. employees; and

(c) if so, from which date Government have decided to restore cut and what remedial action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) As per norms laid down by the Government 1997 for meeting additional requirements on account of revision of pay scales of employees of quasi-government organisations, etc. set up and funded by the Government, 80% of the additional expenditure is to be met by the Central Government and the remaining by the autonomous organisation concerned through additional generation of revenue as well as savings.

(b) and (c) The University Grants Commission have brought to the notice of the Government that the universities and colleges are finding it difficult to generate additional resources to the extent of 20% by way of resource mobilisation and savings. However, it is not possible for the Government to provide complete exemption from the cut

to all the Universities and Colleges as this policy has been extended to autonomous bodies in general.

Promotion cases of KVS Primary Teachers in Delhi

572. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 727 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th December, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the pending cases of promotions of KVS Primary Teachers of Delhi Region have been disposed off;

(b) if so, the number of primary teachers promoted in the Kendriya Vidyalayas of Gole Market, INA and SP Marg; and

(c) if not, the number of such primary teachers in these Vidyalayas who are likely to be promoted?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

NCW's Suggestion for amendments in laws relating to Women

573. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has expressed reservations/limitations on the amendments suggested by National Commission for Women in the laws concerning women; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) to what extent the suggestions of NCW were considered including exercise, if any, eliciting views of State Governments in that regard; and

(c) when such suggestions were received by his Ministry and what is the

(b) and (c) The National Commission for Women (NCW), in its Annual Report for the year 1992-93, received in the Department of Women and Child Development during January, 1995 had recommended, inter-alia, the following amendments in the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987;

Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961:

Provisions relating to the criminal offences in this Act be transported to the Indian Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure; persons giving dowry may be exempted from liability of punishment; persons engaged in negotiations for dowry be made liable for punishment and the offence made cognizable; and penalties for the offences may be enhanced.

The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987:

The offence of Sati murder and its glorification should be included in the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act.

Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1986:

In the month of July, 1998, the NCW had suggested the amendments in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1986, which include that the definition of 'Child' may be redrafted with reference to a child who has not attained the age of 18 years; the definition of 'Protection Home' should be amended to exclude only 'correction institutions'; the police officers appointed to deal with offences under the Act should be a female police officer of higher rank and compensation for injuries caused in prostitution should be enlarged to provide for the nature of damages, quantum etc.

Indecent Representation of Women (Prevention) Act, 1986:

During January, 1998 the NCW had made the recommendations with regard to changes in the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, which include that the