

Failure of Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme

541. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme failing to serve purpose" which appeared in 22nd January, 1999 issue of the Assam Tribune, Guwahati; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) The observations made in the news-item are not correct. The Navodaya Vidyalayas are by and large fulfilling the objectives for which they were set up. The Policy of providing reservation to the extent of 75% seats to rural children and the provision of admission of SC/ST children is also adhered to in these schools, including in Golaghat (Assam).

All care is taken to provide good quality food and infrastructure. Any complaints received in this regard are looked into seriously and remedial action taken.

Committee on Fundamental Duties

542. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-powered committee headed by Shri J.S. Verma, a former Chief Justice of India, for Operationalisation of the Suggestions to Teach Fundamental duties to the Citizens of the country has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in respect thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c)

Yes, Sir. The Committee set up by the Government of India to Operationalize the suggestions to teach Fundamental Duties to the citizens of the country under the Chairmanship of Justice J.S. Verma, former Chief Justice of India, has submitted an interim report. The salient features of the recommendations are as follow:

- (i) There is need for a fundamental transformation in the direction and approach to the curricula for teaching Fundamental Duties in schools and teacher education institutions.
- (ii) The Preamble to the Constitution of India and the 10 clauses of Article 51A relating to Fundamental Duties could be appropriately displayed on all Government publications, diaries, calendars and at public places, etc. so that they always remain in the focus of the citizens. This should be done in all Indian languages in the States/UTs.
- (iii) Preamble to the Constitution of India and the ten clauses of Article 51A of the Constitution regarding Fundamental Duties be printed in all the school textbooks, supplementary materials and general publications brought out by the NCERT.
- (iv) The intent of each clause of Article 51A could be a subject of brief presentation in all morning assemblies in the schools and the teacher education institutions by the Head of the Institution or some senior member of the staff, highlighting the need of internalizing the values inherent in the Fundamental duties.
- (v) Seminars, debates, competitions on different aspects of Article 51A could be made a regular feature of the cocurricular programmes of the schools, colleges and universities.
- (vi) A sensitization module based on Fundamental Duties be made an integral part of all in Service

teacher education programmes organised by national, state and district level institutions. Fundamental Duties could be included in the Foundation Course in Teacher Education curriculum.

- (vii) Development of radio and video spots highlighting important messages emanating from the clauses of Article 51A in the background of proper music and national flag to be done in all regional languages by All India Radio, Doordarshan and other DD channels, through the involvement of such media persons as are known for innovative presentation of nationally important messages.
- (viii) January 3 (the date on which Article 51A came into force) be observed as Fundamental Duties Day.

The Government has considered the recommendations and sought views and comments from State Governments/UT Administrations, Educational institutions of repute, NGOs, Autonomous bodies etc.

Attack on the Headquarters of BCCI

543. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

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

- (a) whether headquarters of the Board of Control for Cricket in India at Mumbai was attacked by some miscreants recently;
- (b) if so, the details of properties etc., damaged or lost as a result thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government have asked a detailed report from the State Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and what steps the Union Government propose to take against those elements or parties who damaged the properties of BCCI?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On January 18, 1999 at 1450 hrs, a group of 40-50 unidentified persons entered the office of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) located in Brabourne Stadium, Mumbai and ransacked furniture, typing machine, shields, curps, medals etc. and took to their heels within 10-15 minutes.

(c) and (d) Government of India has been constantly in touch with State Governments including Govt. of Maharashtra to take all steps to ensure that all necessary arrangements are made to maintain law and order during Pakistani team's programme through out its tour of India and to ensure that no untoward incident occurs.

Education for all

544. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of children between 6-11 age group who would have to be provided primary schooling; and
- (b) the steps taken to provide education for all, in view of Supreme Court's judgement in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) According to available information, the estimated number of children in the age group 6-11 years, who are out of school in three crores.

(b) The Constitution (Eighty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make right to free and compulsory education for children in the age group of 5 to 14 years a Fundamental Right has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997.