

[23 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

**National Book Policy**

3128. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the Federation of Indian Publishers, New Delhi, demanding laying down of a National Book Policy and reduction and subsidization of postage on Book Post and VPP for Books; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The suggestions of Federation of Indian Publishers on National Book Policy and reduction and subsidization of postage on Book Post and VPP for books were considered by the Committee on Promotion of Reading Habits and Development of Book Publishing Industry set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education. The National Book Trust, India has been designated by the Committee as the nodal agency to prepare a draft document on the policy and programmes covering all aspects of book publishing after wide-ranging consultations.

**ICDS in Jharkhand**

3129. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, as being implemented in that State;

(c) the brief details of the status of implementation, including districts presently covered and the number of beneficiaries;

(d) whether any review of implementation of the scheme has