

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

(a) which are the States where Primary and secondary Education is dealt with by the Zilla Parishad and which are the States where they are not;

(b) whether Government is of the view that Primary and Secondary Education should be directly dealt with by the Panchayati Raj Institutions like the Zilla Parishad; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to decentralise education upto the level of the Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPTT. OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) A committee was constituted in February, 1993 on Decentralised Management of Education to formulate guidelines for the Management of Education at district, sub-district and village levels, keeping in view the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts. The Committee recommended, inter alia, that supervision of primary, upper primary and secondary education to be the responsibility of Standing Committee of Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads respectively. The report of the Committee was endorsed by the CABE in October, 1993 and subsequently recommended for appropriate adoption and effective implementation by the States and UTs., primarily responsible for

organisation and management of school education.

Accordingly, several State Governments have initiated steps to decentralise responsibility for education to Panchayat Raj Institutions.

Percentage Share of India's Agricultural Exports

3178. SHRI DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1995-96 India's agriculture exports made up nearly 16 per cent of total exports;

(b) whether in the early 1980's it constituted 25-30 per cent of total export, but agricultural exports have been hamstrung by controls and until recently, an overvalued exchange rate;

(c) if so, whether there are hopeful signs now that a diversified agricultural export basket may find the policy less inhibiting;

(d) whether Government's policy is to raise the agricultural exports to 30 per cent of the total exports;

(e) whether any concrete steps have been formulated in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The agricultural exports during the 1980's and the total exports of the country have been as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Agril. Exports	Country's total exports	% share of agricultural exports
1980-81	1494	6711	22.3
1985-86	1908	10895	17.5
1990-91	4696	32553	14.4
1995-96	17384	106464	16.3

(Source: DGCI&S)

The export of basic agricultural items like cereals, dairy products, meat, sugar etc. is constrained by not only tariff and non-tariff barriers but also by the massive subsidies provided to the producers by the USA, EEC etc.

(c) The removal of non-tariff barriers and reduction of subsidies in the industrialised countries under the WTO agreement are expected to open up new market opportunities for countries like India so as to enable us to increase the share of agriculture and allied products in the country's export basket.

(d) It is the policy of the Government to allow the export of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise the food security of the country. It is with this objective in mind that Government prescribes restrictions like licencing quantitative ceilings and minimum export price on certain items. At the same time, Government's objective is to maximise foreign exchange earnings from the agricultural sector for the benefit of the farmers.

(e) and (f) The steps taken to enhance export of agricultural and allied products include simplification of inspection procedures, removal of Minimum Export Price and quantity restrictions on selected items, provisions of concessional credit, product development to meet international needs, extension of benefits available under the scheme of EOUs/FPZs to agriculture sector and permitting 50% sale in the domestic tariff area, assistance to exporters for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control, promoting export of identified products through brand promotion campaigns, arranging buyer-seller meets and participation in interantional fairs/exhibitions.

Transfer of DMS to Delhi Government

3179. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI:

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to hand over the Delhi Milk Scheme to the Delhi Government; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what are the modalities being worked out for such handover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Transmission of Primary School Education Through Satellite Channels

3180. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some satellite channels are being utilised to transmit lessons of primary school standard to village;

(b) if so, the details of the channels used and the programmes so telecast; and

(c) whether these programmes are in different languages and which States are being benefited by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPTT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) Educational Programmes produced by Central Institute of Educational technology (CIET) and State Instiutes of Educational Technology (SIET), which are mainly enrichment programmes for children of primary school age group are being telecast through different regional language services of Doordarshan terrestrially as given below: