

There are 463 Kendriya Vidyalayas at plus 2 state out of which 20 are in Delhi. For the Kendriya Vidyalayas as a whole the comparative

results at plus 2 level (senior secondary) in the last three years have been as below:—

Year	Kendriya Vidyalayas		Non-Kendriya Vidyalayas	
	No. Appeared	Pass%	No. Appeared	Pass%
1991	24,325	81.86	99,723	72.32
1992	26,610	84.80	1,12,106	75.38
1993	27,672	81.95	1,17,955	74.80

The CBSE does not maintain statistics of how many candidates secured more than 70% marks. However, it does maintain statistics about how many candidates secured more than 75% marks. The performance of students of Kendriya

Vidyalayas of Delhi compared to that of all Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country in 1992 in terms of securing more than 75% marks has been as below:

Year	Kendriya Vidyalayas located in Delhi		All India Kendriya Vidyalayas	
	No. Appeared	% who secured more than 75%	No. Appeared	% who secured more than 75%
1992	2,933	14.62	26,610	11.37

Thus the performance of students of Kendriya Vidyalayas has been better than the performance of other CBSE affiliated schools. However, improvement of quality of teaching-learning in the Kendriya Vidyalayas is a continuous process and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is attending to the requirements of quality improvement.

#### Pollutants Around the Taj Mahal

\*170. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the historic monument the 'Taj Mahal' at Agra has developed cracks, and such other symptoms of deterioration affecting its safety and long life;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken for its protection;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Pollutants around Taj Mahal' which appeared in the Indian Express of June 26, 1993;

(d) what steps have been taken/are being

taken to neutralise and minimise the pollutants affecting the dome; and

(e) whether experts from within and outside the country are being consulted?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH):

(a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The following measures have been taken to protect the Taj Mahal from pollutants.

(i) Two thermal power plants in Agra were closed down in 1981.

(ii) Agra railway marshalling yard has been dieselised.

(iii) The Forest Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh has created a green belt around Taj Mahal by plantation of trees on available Government land.

(iv) The State Government is monitoring the pollution levels in Agra.

(v) The Archaeological Survey of India is constantly monitoring the Ambient air around the Taj Mahal to assess the level of sulphur-dioxide, suspended

particulate matter and other pollutants as well as meteorological data in order to take such remedial measures as may be required. Besides, periodical chemical treatment and preservation is being carried out in phase.

- (vi) Department of Environment, Government of India vide its notification dated 3rd May, 1983 has demarcated an area measuring 10,400 sq. kms. around Taj Mahal where no industry with pollution potential is allowed.
- (vii) There is a ban on the use of furnace oil and diesel generators in industries in Agra. The foundries are not permitted to operate during winter nights.
- (viii) Movement of heavy vehicles around the Taj Mahal has been stopped and the parking has been shifted to Shilpgram.
- (ix) Burning of rubbish near Taj has been stopped.
- (x) Emission standards for vehicles have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (xi) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India is evolving guide lines to determine measures for abatement of pollution and if necessary re-define the co-ordinates of Taj TRAPEZIUM.

(e) Experts from within and outside the country are consulted as and when the necessity is felt.

#### Rate of Interest Charged by G.D.A.

\*171. SHRI PASUMPON THIA KIRUTINAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ghaziabad Development Authority in its brochure for Indira Puram Scheme Code 634 had prescribed 18 per cent as rate of interest for delayed payments of instalments and 15 per cent interest in payment of regular instalments;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Authority has increased the rate of interest by 3 per cent; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Authority allows the benefit of reducing the cost calculated on the basis of 15 per cent interest, in case lump-sum payment is

made in one or two instalments before taking possession of plots, payment for which is otherwise required to be made in a number of instalments in terms of the brochure?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Ghaziabad Development Authority initially finances its projects under hire purchase scheme and Self Financing Schemes by obtaining loans from HUDCO, HDFC, P.N.B. Housing Finance Ltd. and Commercial banks. The Authority has reported that, since the cost of borrowing from these institutions has increased, the Board of Directors of Ghaziabad Development Authority has decided to increase the rate of interest chargeable to allottees by 3 per cent.

(c) It has also been reported by the Authority that exemption from payment of interest is given only if the payment is made in one lump-sum. In case payment is made in instalments, interest is charged up to the date of payment of the amount.

#### Misuse of Facilities Meant to the Handicapped

\*172. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the facilities being provided to the handicapped persons of the country at present;

(b) the nodal agencies involved in administering these facilities;

(c) whether it is a fact that about 70 per cent of the facilities meant for handicapped persons in the capital are being misused;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to check their misuse?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The Ministry of Welfare provides facilities like education, vocational training, economic and social rehabilitation and aids and appliances to the handicapped persons through Voluntary Organisations by giving them assistance upto 98% of their expenditure. It also provides services like education, man power development, vocational guidance, counselling and rehabilitation through National Institutes. A 3%