

Integrated Child Development Services Scheme

3396. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to re-vamp the entire Integrated Child Development Services scheme in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. BASAVA RAJESHWAR!) : (a) and (b) The Government does not have any proposal under consideration at present to revamp the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in the country. However, with a view to improving the Monitoring System, the community based monitoring mechanism has been recently evolved. The States/Union Territories have been asked to constitute Balvikas Mahila Samitis at the village, block and district levels for involvement of elected women representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Monitoring Women and Child Development Programmes including ICDS. Involvement of community in monitoring the growth of malnourished children is also being introduced through community growth monitoring chart. Steps have also been taken for greater involvement of Mahila Mandals and non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the implementation of ICDS Scheme by specially earmarking 52 new ICDS Projects sanctioned during 1992-93 and 1993-94 for implementation through NGOs

Low Progress in Education

3397 SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether even after 46 years of independence India ranks 134th among 173 countries, in so far as the factors like purchasing power parity, adjusted real per capita GDP, life expectancy at birth and core social sectors such as education and

health are concerned and particularly India; is behind most of the Asian countries;

(b) if so, whether Government has gone into the causes of such a tardy progress and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what concrete and effective steps are being taken to improve the situation particularly in the matter of education and health?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Moral Education in Schools

3398. SHRI BRAHMADEO ANAND PASWAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to reintroduce moral education in the curriculum for the students of Secondary and Senior Secondary classes;

(b) whether Government is also planning to introduce formal teaching of National Character and Patriotism;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) when Government will introduce the system of Nationwide Universal Common Syllabus from Primary to 2. stage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Moral education which is a holistic concept giving stress on inculcation of certain fundamental values, presupposes that consciousness of such values should permeate the whole curriculum and programme of activities in school. The National Policy on Education, 1986 calls for a National System of Education based on a National Curriculum Framework with common core containing component like History of India's Freedom Movement, the constitutional obligation and other fundamental values.