

awaited from some of the State Governments.

(b) No money has so far been given under the scheme during the current year.

(c) and (d). The scheme provides for appointment of teachers for teaching selected modern subjects in traditional Sanskrit Pathshalas and 100 per cent grant is given to the State Governments.

'Consumer Protection' as a subject in School Curricula

1655. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR
BIRLA :

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering the inclusion of consumer protection as a subject in school curricula,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has approached the Indira Gandhi National Open University for formulating the plans and proposals for introducing the subject at various levels as well as requested the State Governments to take initiatives in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). Some ideas having linkage to consumer rights have already been included in the Social Sciences text books of the NCERT. The NCERT textbooks are used in the schools affiliated to the

CBSE. The majority of the schools in the country are with the State Governments who have autonomy in design of curricula for schools under their respective jurisdiction.

(c) and (d). As per information received from the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), an academic programme in the area of Consumer Protection has been designed by the University to train the persons who wish to take up leadership of Consumer Protection Movement at various levels. The State Governments have not been approached so far to take initiative in introducing this subject at various levels since the IGNOU's academic programme is yet to be implemented in consultation with the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.

Shrouded controversy about Joint Entrance Examination

1656. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A.
PARMAR:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the 'Hindustan Times' of 25th June, 1994 captioned "Flamed JEE mars students careers";

(b) if so, whether it was the fourth year in a row when Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) conducted for admission to IITs were shrouded in controversies; and

(c) what steps have been/are being taken to improve the admission procedure and practices for these prestigious institutions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to