

(a) how much amount has been spent so far on the "People of India" project of the Anthropological Survey of India and what has been the output in terms of publication and help in policy decisions;

(b) whether the methodology adopted the "People of India" project of the Anthropological Survey of India for surveys is in line with the methodologies normally followed by social anthropologists and whether it has been vetted by renewed social anthropologists to ensure that the large amount spent on the project had not been wasted;

(c) whether Calcutta continue to be the headquarter of the Anthropological Survey of India, and if so, what is the role of the Office in Delhi; and

(d) what proportions of the total time was spent by the Director General in Calcutta, Delhi and field visits respectively over the past one year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The total amount spent so far for the People of India project is Rs. 2.26 crores. This does not include the salary component of the regular staff of the Anthropological Survey of India deployed for this project. Twelve out of 43 volumes proposed to be brought out under the project have been published. It is only after the entire material has been published that its implication for policy decision will be known.

(b) Yes, Sir. The project has followed the methodology of the ethnographic survey as it has been developed over the last 100 years. This methodology is part of the tradition of social anthropology. The project reports have been discussed and reviewed in several rounds of discussions and in various parts of the country which were participated in by renowned social anthropologists including professors of university departments.

(c) Yes, Sir. Its camp office at New Delhi is concerned with the preparation, editing and publication of the People of India project material.

(d) There has been no Director General for the last one year and a half.

Post of Secretary in ICSSR

4297. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) for how many months between 1988 and 1994 (July) the post of Secretary of Indian Council of Social Science Research remained vacant and whether any steps had been taken by the Government to fill up that position; and

(b) what efforts were made during the prolonged illness of the Chairman of ICSSR, Professor Moonis Raza until his death, to ensure that normal work at ICSSR was not affected during his illness?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The post of Member-Secretary fell vacant on August 18, 1989 and was filled up on March 18, 1991. Consequent upon the Member-Secretary tendering resignation w.e.f., June 25, 1993 working arrangements were made to ensure that the functioning of the Council was not affected. However, Government has now conveyed its approval to the Council for appointment of a new incumbent as Member-Secretary. The Council has been advised to take further necessary action in the matter.

(b) According to the information furnished by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, the council resolved that in absence of the Chairman, in connection with his treatment abroad an Advisory Committee (under the Chairmanship of Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Chairman, UGC) would be constituted to advise the Member-Secretary on such matters as may be necessary and accordingly the advisory Committee is functioning.

Action Plan for Children

4298. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka,

Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have prepared action plan on children in pursuance of the National Plan of action for children;

(b) if so, the areas covered by this action plan; and

(c) which other States are expected to follow these three States in preparing their action plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Plan of Action on Children covers areas like Health, Maternal Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Education, Children in especially difficult circumstances, Girl Child, Adolescent Girls, Children and the Environment, Women, Advocacy & People's Participation. The National Plan of Action has further been reinforced by adopting mid-decade goals in the areas of basic education, health, child labour, drinking water and sanitation.

(c) The Central Government has urged upon all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to prepare Plan of Action for Children in respect of their States/UTs on the basis of the National Plan of Action for Children specifying the targets for 1995 as well as 2000 and spelling out the strategy by taking into account the regional disparities that may exist in their respective State/Union Territory Administration. In addition to these three States, the State of West Bengal has also prepared and adopted the State Plan of Action on Children. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya, Goa and National Capital Territory of Delhi have prepared their Draft State Plans of Action which are expected to be adopted soon.

The State Plan of Action in the States of Manipur, Haryana, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are in the draft stages.

दक्षिणी और पश्चिमी भारत की देवदासियों पर सर्वेक्षण

†4299. श्री प्रमोद महाजन: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उनके मंत्रालय ने दक्षिण और पश्चिम भारत की देवदासियों के संबंध में अध्ययन करने के लिए एक समिति बनायी थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार देवदासियों की राज्य-वार संख्या क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार इन देवदासियों के पुनर्वास के बारे में या उन्हें शोषण से मुक्त कराने के लिए विचार कर रही है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि कानून और उसके प्रचार के बावजूद सरकार इस कुप्रथा को रोकने में असफल रही है;

(च) यदि हां, तो उसके कारण क्या हैं; और

(छ) इस कुप्रथा को रोकने तथा देवदासियों के पुनर्वास के लिए सरकार क्या-क्या कदम उठाने पर विचार कर रही है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (महिला और बाल विकास विभाग) (श्रीमती बासवराजेश्वरी): (क) जी, नहीं। किन्तु केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बाल वेश्यावृत्ति की समस्याओं के अध्ययन के लिए एक केन्द्रीय सलाहकार समिति का गठन किया है जिसने अन्य मुद्दों के साथ-साथ देवदासियों की समस्याओं के संबंध में भी जांच की।

(ख) हालांकि समिति ने देवदासियों की संख्या के बारे में कोई सर्वेक्षण नहीं किया। द्वितीयक स्रोतों से पता चलता है कि उनकी अधिकतर संख्या कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र और आंध्र प्रदेश राज्यों में है। कर्नाटक के 6 जिलों में, जहां देवदासी प्रथा व्याप्त है, अनुमान है कि वर्ष 1991-92 में लगभग 21 हजार देवदासियां थीं। 1986 में किए गए एक सर्वेक्षण से पता चला था कि आंध्र प्रदेश में 16, 300 जोगिनें थीं।

(ग), (घ) और (छ) देवदासी प्रथा आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक और महाराष्ट्र राज्यों के कुछ क्षेत्रों में विद्यमान है इन राज्यों ने देवदासी प्रथा को प्रतिबंधित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित कानून बनाए हैं:

1. आंध्र प्रदेश देवदासी (समर्पण प्रतिषेध) अधिनियम, 1985;

2. कर्नाटक देवदासी (समर्पण प्रतिषेध) अधिनियम, 1987 तथा

3. बम्बई देवदासी संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1934

भारत सरकार ने इस प्रथा के उन्मूलन के लिए कोई विशिष्ट कानून नहीं बनाया है। किन्तु इस प्रथा पर सन्