

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Government have exempted imported sugar from stock holding limits and turnover period restrictions in order to ensure its adequate availability to the consumers at a reasonable price.

(b) Government have allowed import of raw sugar also under open General licence (OGL), which after re-processing would help to augment the supply of sugar in the domestic market.

(c) As per available information upto 25-7-1994, the imports have been as follows:—

	Total quantity arrived at ports/border
(i) STC/MMTC	70,034 tonnes
(ii) Private Parties	6,24,611 tonnes

(d) The Government is not aware of any misuse of the relaxations of regulations by any party.

Copyright Piracy

587. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to explore the possibilities of constituting copyright enforcement cells to check piracy;

(b) if so, whether any guidelines in this regard have been issued to the State Governments;

(c) what are the number of cases of violation of the Copy-right Act which came to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(d) what action has been contemplated by Government in each case; and

(e) to what extent the copyright enforcement cells would check piracy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION & DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) For checking infringements of Copyright Act, the Government of India had suggested to the State Governments certain measures, including setting up of Special Copyright Enforcement Cells in larger towns to investigate copy right offences.

(c) and (d) According to information furnished by National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, cases of violation of Copyright Act reported from different States/ Union Territories in 1991 and 1992 were 854 and 1167 respectively. The data for 1993 is not yet available. Necessary action in this regard is taken by the respective State Governments.

(e) The proposed Copyright Enforcement Cells are expected to be quite useful in checking piracy.

Child Prostitutes in India

588. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a UNICEF report according to which there are 3,00,000 child prostitutes in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to eliminate this evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no scientific statistics available about the number of child prostitutes in India. However, the Government is very concerned about this phenomenon and feels that the problem of child prostitution is linked to the general problem of prostitution in the society.

(c) The Government of India has set up a Central Advisory Committee to frame recommendation/plan of action for both legal and non-legal approaches for the rescue and rehabilitation of child prostitutes. The recommendation of the Committee have been sent to the concerned Central Ministries/Departments and to the State Governments for taking appropriate action.

Many of the State Governments have set up State Advisory Committees within their jurisdiction for suggesting measures for the care, protection, treatment and rehabilitation of the young victims rescued from brothel houses.

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings including children. Higher Penalties, punishments have been prescribed in cases relating to the prostitution of a child or a minor, under the act.

The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 provides for the care, protection, treatment and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent juveniles including girls.

The enforcement of the Acts is the responsibility of the state Governments. The Central Governments have issued instructions from time to time to all States/Union Territories for strict implementation of the Act. Meetings with DGPs of all the States have been held in this regard.

The Government has an extensive network of Short Stay Homes and Homes set up under the Juvenile Justice Act for protection and rehabilitation of the victims. The services of qualified doctors, psychiatrists are available in the Short Stay Homes.

These services are available on part time basis in the Homes under Juvenile Justice Act.

A National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade (1991-2000 AD) of the girl child focussing on survival, protection and development of the girl child has been formulated. A special set of interventions for adolescent girls has been institutionalised through the ICDS infrastructure. Programmes of action and advocacy are being implemented to project positive images of girl children so as to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards them.

Deteriorating standard of higher education

589. SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the standard of higher education in the country is rapidly deteriorating;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps Government propose to bring about improvement in the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION & DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

In pursuance of NPE-86, the Government & UGC have taken several initiatives to improve the standard of education in institutions of higher learning. Some of the major steps taken in this regard are:

— Revision of pay scales of college and University teachers w.e.f. 1-1-1986. Opportunities provided for training and career advancement for teachers. All-India Eligibility Test introduced to attract best talent to the teaching profession.

— Academic staff colleges established for re-orientation of newly appointed university and college Teachers.