

Territory Administrations from their own budget provision with a view to increase enrolment and retention in primary and upper primary schools.

(b) A study conducted by National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) in 1983 on mid-day meals programme showed that it had positive impact on enrolment and retention of children in schools.

Summit meet for attainment of Education for All

3902. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is going to host a summit level Meet of nine countries under "Largest Countries Initiative" supported by UNICEF and UNESCO to chalk out a plan of action aimed towards attainment of education for all;

(b) what steps have been initiated by Government to ensure that the States/ Union Territories start preparation of plans of action with adequate resource allocation; and

(c) whether any common guideline is being issued to support this exercise at the State Government/Union Territory level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) As part of the UNESCO-UNICEF initiative for promoting "Education for All" India has expressed its willingness to host a Summit level meeting of the nine most populous developing countries.

(b) and (c) In August 1992, the Programme of Action, 1992 (POA) was adopted by the Central Advisory Board of Education, of which all State Education Ministers are Members. The POA calls upon the States to prepare State Programmes of Action. Resources

to education have also been considerably stepped up in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Stepping up of quality of Education

3903. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state what special and effective measures are taken/being taken by Government to step up the quality of education at all levels so as to achieve the real objective of education, in moulding and shaping the character of each individual citizen?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): Several programmes have been launched by the State Governments for improvement of educational standards. The Central Government also initiated in 1987-88 the scheme of Operation Blackboard to improve the facilities in primary schools. A number of measures have been taken also to improve the content and process of education. Some of these measures include renewal of curricula, improvement of the quality of text-books, in-service training of teachers to improve their professional competence and utilization of educational technology to bring about improvement in the quality of education. The 'National Curriculum for Elementary Education—A Framework' brought out by the National Council of Educational Research and Training paid particular attention to the values specified in the National Policy on Education, 1986 and integrated the various components of value education into the curriculum at all stages of school education.

भारत रत्न डा० बी० आर० अम्बेडकर
विश्वविद्यालय, लखनऊ

3904. श्री सत्य प्रकाश पालवीय: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को उत्तर प्रदेश की राज्य सरकार से भारत रत्न डा० बी० आर० अम्बेडकर विश्वविद्यालय,