

Initiatives to achieve targets for basic functions

*245. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIL-
RLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the comparative percentage of enrolment at primary school stage separately for boys and girls during the years 1989, 1990 and 1992 till date;

(b) what is the percentage of the children (boys and girls), enrolled during these years, who completed primary education and what is the percentage of drop-outs;

(c) whether UNESCO and UNICEF have recently asked Government of India to take special initiatives to achieve the targets for basic education set out at the World Education Conference in March, 1990; and

(d) if so, what measures are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AR-
JUN SINGH): (a) The gross enrolment ratio figures at primary stage, available for 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as follows:—

	Boys	Girls	Total
1989-90	115.47	83.60	99.96
1990-91	115.29	85.97	101.03

(The gross enrolment ratio at primary stage is defined as the percentage ratio of the enrolment in classes I—V to the estimated child population in the age group 6—11 years. This ratio includes under-age and over-age children and hence it may exceed 100.)

(b) The latest figures of drop out rates are available for the year 1987-88. These are:

	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Stage (classes I—V)	43.28%	49.42%	46.97%

(c) and (d) The Director-General of UNESCO and the Executive Director of UNICEF have addressed a joint letter to the heads of Government of the largest dozen or so developing countries, including India, for their personal support to and involvement in ensuring the success of "Education for All" (EFA) initiative in their own countries and internationally. The letter acknowledges that particularly important programmes are being developed in India in the area of Primary Education.

The World Conference on Education for All (WCEFA) was jointly convened by UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP and World Bank at Jomtien (Thailand) in March, 1990. The Conference unanimously adopted a "World Charter on Education for All" and "A Framework of Action to meet Basic Learning Needs". These two documents spell out the global targets and action plan to make Education for All a reality by 2000 A.D. India has shown interest in the initiative taken by the UNESCO and UNICEF in this regard.

The Eighth Plan stipulates several specific measures to achieve the goal of EFA. Some of them are:

- Microplanning through a process of community participation and effective de-centralisation of educational management to the village level;
- Special emphasis on retention of children in school and achievement of the minimum levels of learning by them;
- Expansion of facilities and improvement of primary and upper primary schools by expanding the scope of Operation Blackboard;
- Diversification and improvement of programme of non-formal education for children who will remain outside the formal school system;
- Strengthening of pre-school components of Early Childhood Care and Education;

(f) Improving and expanding programme for teacher education by providing network of centres for in-service and continuing education of school teachers;

(g) Special efforts to eradicate illiteracy among adults through total literacy campaigns.

Listing of authorised medical attendants for Kendriya Vidyalayas

*246. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that AMAs (Authorised Medical Attendants) for different localities where Kendriya Vidyalayas are located are listed every year by Assistant Commissioners;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such an action has not been taken by the concerned officers of many regions during the last two to three years; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the K.V.S. in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. This power has been delegated to all Regional Assistant Commissioners to approve Authorised Medical Attendants out of the panel drawn up by the Central Government Employees' Welfare Coordination Committees.

(b) and (c) The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have confirmed that the scheme of appointment of Authorised Medical Attendants is in operation.

Restoration of the Cut imposed by U.G.C.

*247. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 46 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has reduced the grant to Delhi University by 18 per cent as compared to that of the last year;

(b) whether the adverse effect of such reduction on the functioning of the University was taken into account;

(c) whether other Central Universities have also been affected; and

(d) whether such cuts would be restored?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. According to information furnished by UGC, the Non-Plan maintenance grant of the Commission to Delhi University during current financial year 92-93 is expected to be of the same level as for last year. The Commission provided a Non-Plan grant of Rs. 2501.40 lakhs to Delhi University in 91-92.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Central Universities are fully funded by the Central Government through the University Grants Commission (UGC). A major share of UGC's Non-Plan budget is made available to Central Universities and Delhi Colleges for their maintenance expenditure. Keeping in view the present constraint on the availability of financial resources, Government has decided to maintain the level of Non-Plan expenditure of all Ministries/Departments and autonomous bodies during 1992-93 at the level of last year. This has imposed resource constraints on UGC as well as Central Universities.