

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) A large number of children in India are found staying of streets and roadside and selling things at traffic signals, specially in metro cities. There are several socio-economic factors for this which include poverty, illiteracy, migration and others.

(c) and (d) Several schemes and programmes are being implemented by the Government for betterment of such children. The following schemes are being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development:

- (i) **An Integrated Programme for Street Children:** The scheme is implemented for providing non-institutional support necessary for wholesome development of street children. Under the scheme, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are funded by the Ministry for providing facilities to street children which include shelter, nutrition, health care, recreation, education (formal and non-formal), vocational training etc. Childline service is also being provided under the scheme which is 24-hour toll free emergency phone outreach service for children in need of care and protection. Any child/concerned adult on behalf of a child, can call 1098, and avail of the service at any time of the day or night. Childline is available in 83 cities in the country.
- (ii) **Scheme for Working Children in Need of Care and Protection:** Under this scheme working children are provided non formal education and vocational training to facilitate their entry/re-entry into mainstream education with a view to preventing their future exploitation.
- (iii) **Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS):** The Ministry has recently formulated a new centrally sponsored scheme, namely, the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) for implementation during the 11th Plan Period through the State Governments/UT Administrations with main objective of providing a safe and secure environment to the children in need of care and protection. Under this scheme, provision has been made to cater to all children in need of care and protection particularly beggars, street children and working children, rag pickers, orphaned, trafficked, run-away children and any other vulnerable group of children. However, this scheme is yet to be approved by the competent authority.

English medium education in tribal areas

†*289. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted regarding the outcome of education being imparted through the English medium in the tribal areas;

(b) whether their methods of addressing, clothing, music, etc. are getting affected;

(c) if so, whether this matter has been investigated; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the details of the agency responsible to see that Indian ideals, great personalities, moral values are included in the syllabi of private schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Government is not aware of any such study regarding the outcome of English medium education in tribal areas.

(d) National Curriculum Framework (NCF) – 2005, formulated by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and approved by Central Advisory Board of Education, emphasizes inculcation of moral values in students. Further, values enshrined in the Indian Constitution are reflected in NCF-2005, which also focuses on strengthening of our cultural heritage and national identity, so as to enable the younger generation to reinterpret and re-evaluate the past with reference to new priorities and emerging outlooks in a changing societal context. NCERT has prepared syllabi and textbooks for all subjects and all classes based on NCF-2005. These promote Indian ideals and moral values and include topics on great personalities. Schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) use the curriculum formulated by NCERT with adaptation, as required, and generally prescribe textbooks prepared by NCERT. The State Governments and State Boards of Secondary Education prepare their own syllabi and textbooks in the light of NCF. It is expected that schools in the country, whether Government or private, follow NCF.

Education being a subject in concurrent list, it is primarily the State Governments which ensure that syllabi and textbooks follow NCF-2005.

Supreme Court ruling on pending cases

*290. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has recently taken an initiative to close cases, including those involving criminal offences, if the parties reach a compromise;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether this ruling of the Supreme Court would allow closure of criminal proceedings by courts, even in non-compoundable offences;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for which Government has not circulated the ruling to various High Courts, so far, to minimize the litigations; and

(e) whether Government would circulate the Supreme Court ruling to various courts, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

E-governance project of UGC

*291. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: