

[18 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

Government of India's O.M. dated 13.8.1990 issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoP&T) regarding reservation for the OBCs, as finally modified by O.M. dated 8.9.1993 are applicable to vacancies filled up by direct recruitment at entry level upto the level of Lecturer.

(b) and (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) is responsible for implementation of the policy of the Central Government in the matter of recruitment to the teaching and non-teaching posts in Central Universities and institutions which are deemed to be universities receiving aid from the public funds other than minority institutions under Article 30(1) of the Constitution.

Assessment of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2747. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has met with considerable success quantitatively but not qualitatively according to the study conducted by the Indian Institute of Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the success rate on this count in the upper primary level is not satisfactory in several districts of the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to provide quality education under SSA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e). "Shiksha Sangam" is an academic document of good practices under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in 13 States, brought out by the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad in August 2006. It does not contain an evaluative assessment of the success rate of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, qualitatively or quantitatively.

Improvement of nutritional value in Mid-Day Meal

2748. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked States to improve child's nutritional value on the mid-day meals quoting different studies, that majority of the children in the country are either moderately or severely underweight;

(b) whether his Ministry have recommended that a child should get a minimum of 450 calories, 12 grams of protein and adequate quantities of micronutrients like iron, folic acid and vitamin A;

(c) whether Ministry of Food Processing Industry have urged his Ministry to allow them to provide ready-to-eat meals as part of Government's Mid-day Meal Scheme introduced in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Nutritional value of Mid-day Meal was revised in June, 2006 based on the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee of Mid-Day Meal Programme, which *inter-alia* consisted of nutritional experts, and selected State Government representatives.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) No. Sir

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

Rural children in IT enabled education

2749. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the rural children do not get exposure to IT enabled education both at the elementary and higher level of education;

(b) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by Government to bridge the gap in the education system between the rural and urban children; and

(c) whether Government would make specific allocations for this purpose in the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.