RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday the 7th July, 2009/16 Asadha 1931 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

शिक्षा के क्षेत्र का विकास

*41. श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:†† श्री राम जेठमलानी:

क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (क) क्या यह सच है कि विश्व में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र को एक बाजार के रूप में पेश किया जाता है;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और क्या सरकार शिक्षा के क्षेत्र को उसके इसी रूप में विकसित करना चाहती है;और
 - (ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या नीति है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री कपिल सिब्बल): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) शैक्षिक सेवाओं को विश्व व्यापार संगठन के 'सेवाओं का व्यापार संबंधी सामान्य करार' के अंतर्गत एक सेवा के रूप में शामिल किया गया है परंतु भारत ने अभी तक शैक्षिक सेवाओं के प्रति कोई वचनबद्धता नहीं की है। 1992 में यथा संशोधित राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति, 1986 के अनुसार सरकार शिक्षा के वाणिज्यीकरण के खिलाफ है। भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने कई निर्णयों में भी भारत में शिक्षा के वाणिज्यीकरण का निषेध किया गया है, तथापि शैक्षिक संस्थाओं के और अधिक विकास के लिए यथोचित राशि उत्पन्न की जा सकती है।

सरकार शैक्षिक संस्थाओं के वित्त पोषण और प्रबंधन के लिए इस शर्त के साथ निजीक्षेत्र के सक्रिय समर्थन और भागीदारी के पक्ष में है कि अर्जित बेशी राशि को संस्थाओं के विकास में वापस लगा दिया जाए। राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद द्वारा यथा अनुमोदित 11वीं योजना दस्तावेज में भी इस बात का उल्लेख है कि शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में निजीक्षेत्र की पहलों का और सार्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी के विभिन्न स्वरूपों का पता लगाने की आवश्यकता है।

Development of Education Sector

†*41. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: †††

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the education sector is projected as a market in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government intends to develop education sector as such; and

†| समा में यह प्रश्न श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी द्वारा पूछा गया।

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

†††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shivanand Tiwari

(c) if not, the policy of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Educational Services are included as one of the services under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) but India has not made any specific commitment on educational services so far. As per the National Policy on Education, 1986 as modified in 1992, Government is against the commercialization of education. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India, have also prohibited commercialization of education in India, though reasonable surpluses can be generated for further development of the educational institutions.

The Government favours the active support and involvement of the private sector for funding and management of educational institutions subject to surplus earned being ploughed back into the development of institutions. The 11th Plan document as approved by the National Development Council, also mentions the need to explore private sector initiatives and various forms of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in the education sector.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापित महोदय, सरकार ने जो जवाब दिया है, यह जवाब abstract है, बिल्कुल अमूर्त जवाब है। रोज़ हम लोग अखबारों में देख रहे हैं कि निजी विद्यालयों, विश्वविद्यालयों के विज्ञापन छप रहे हैं और शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में जितनी गैर-बराबरी आज़ादी के बाद बढ़ी है, उतनी पहले नहीं थी। वैसे तो हर क्षेत्र में गैर-बराबरी बढ़ी है, लेकिन शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में जबर्दस्त गैर-बराबरी बढ़ी है। आज़ादी से पहले शिक्षा में इतना वर्गीकरण नहीं था, जितना आज है। तो मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में यह जो गैर-बराबरी है, इस गैर-बराबरी को खत्म करने के लिए कोठारी कमीशन और बाकी दूसरे कमीशनों ने कहा था कि शिक्षा में समानीकरण की नीति अपनाई जाएगी, इसके बारे में सरकार की क्या राय है?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to state on the Floor of the House that this is a very serious issue. It is in this context we have publicly stated, both in the President's Address as well as my public pronouncements, that we need to move forward in education on the basis of three large principles. The first one is expansion, then, inclusion and then excellence, which, if translated, means access, equity and quality. Now, the problems that have arisen today in the education sector are a mismatch between the three. Where you have excellence, you do not have access, where you have excellence, you do not have no quality. So, we need to very carefully move forward in this area, because the needs of society have changed. The needs of education sector and society in the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s are entirely different. Previously, society used to move forward by investment in physical assets. Today, society moves forward by investment in intellectual assets. The whole paradigm has shifted. Unfortunately, in our country, there is not sufficient debate on this paradigm shift. If the paradigm has shifted and the wealth of nation depends on the extent of intellectual property that is created, then only will the country move

forward. Therefore, you need greater access to institutes of excellence, along with equity. That is exactly what we are trying to do. Therefore, the hon. Prime Minister has moved forward very quickly. We are talking about setting up of 30 new Central Universities, creating 8 new IITs, 8 new IIMs and 5 Indian Institute of Education and Research. The kind of investments that we have made in education and the kind of investments that we are looking at are going to move forward very quickly. In the meantime, we are going to de-stress the system by allowing a lot of people to set up institutes with very strong entry barriers. That is what our policy is going to be. We need huge expansion in this area, because there is a mismatch between demand and supply. Unless that mismatch is rectified, we will not be able to move forward quickly. That is the statement I wish to make.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापित महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बहुत ही लुभावनी बातें कही हैं, बहुत lofty ideas को बयान किया है, इससे किसी को कोई ऐतराज़ नहीं हो सकता है, लेकिन जो कुछ ये कह रहे हैं, आज़ादी के 60-62 वर्षों में हमने उसको हासिल नहीं किया है, बल्कि वे जिस गुणवत्ता की बात कर रहे हैं, क्वालिटी एजुकेशन की बात कर रहे हैं, आज भी इस देश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जो सरकारी विद्यालय हैं, उनकी क्या स्थिति है, यह हर कोई जानता है। हमारे संविधान के Directive Principles में यह लिखा गया है कि हम हर तरह की गैर-बराबरी को कम करने की कोशिश करेंगे, लेकिन इसके ठीक उल्टे हम सारे क्षेत्रों में गैर-बराबरी को बढ़ाने का काम कर रहे हैं। तो जो कुछ माननीय मंत्री जी ने बयान किया है, उसको achieve करने के लिए, हासिल करने के लिए कोई भी blueprint बजट में दिखाई नहीं दिया। सरकार ने बजट में primary education में महज सौ-सवा सौ करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान किया है और 'Right to Education' का बिल इतने लंबे समय से pending है। आज आप जो भाषण दे रहे हैं, वह तो हम आज़ादी के बाद से लगातार सुनते आ रहे हैं, लेकिन धरातल पर कुछ नहीं दिखाई दिया है।

श्री सभापति : कृपया, आप सवाल तो पूछ लीजिए।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि कम से कम मंत्री महोदय यह तो बताएं कि जो कुछ उन्होंने कहा है, उसको हासिल करने के लिए उनके पास क्या योजना है और क्या time frame है?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as the Right to Education Bill is concerned, hopefully, we will bring it to this House in this Session itself. So, these are not plans in the air. This is something that we are going to do. I need the support of all the Members of this House to have this passed as quickly as possible. As far as higher education is concerned, I think, what this Government has done, what the previous Government did, and what this Government intends to do, has never been done in the history of this country in the field of education. By the end of the Eleventh Plan. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : महोदय, आज primary education का challenge है ...(व्यवधान)...। महोदय, इस देश के सामने आज भी primary education एक चुनौती है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : माफ कीजिएगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I think, I have already mentioned that we are moving a Right to Education

Bill. Is that not concerned with the primary education? I thought, that is precisely what it was. We are going to have neighbourhood schools in every part of this country. The State Governments will be given the liberty to decide where that neighbourhood school should be; what is the habitation that that neighbourhood school is going to serve. That is left to each State Government. And, we hope that the State Governments cooperate and set up schools in every neighbourhood. There is guideline saying that within three years, if a particular area or a particular place does not have a school, that school shall be built in accordance with the norms that are set out in the Right to Education Bill. That is all about primary education.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I read in the newspaper that the Government is planning to have cooperation or joint venture, in the higher education, with foreign universities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the truth is. Are you going to have collaboration with foreign universities in higher education?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I wish to again place on record that this is something that the Government is contemplating. A kind of Bill has been drafted at the level of the Ministry. I hope to send it to the Cabinet very soon. And, whenever there is a consensus on this, we will move forward. I do believe that it is important for us to have access to the best in the world. There is nothing wrong with it. But, at the same time, we must build the best in the world also. What we need to do is to build world-class universities. Fourteen of them will be built in this country. We need to get access to the best institutions of the world as well because India needs the best, and we shall be the best in the field of education.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, we had a bad experience with the Special Economic Zones. Now, it appears that a new concept of Special Education Zones is coming up. Many educationists or educational institutions are asking for vast lands from the State Governments in the name of establishing education institutions. Now, you have said that the Government favours the active support on the involvement of private sector for funding and management institutions, subject to surplus funds being ploughed back into the development of the institutions. What is the scheme or mechanism you have to ensure that surplus funds would be ploughed back into the development of institutions?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, that is, in fact, the law of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has said that any surplus funds, generated by an educational institution, shall be ploughed back only to that institution and nowhere else. That's the law of the land. There is no question of any mechanism.

DR. (SHRIMATI) KAPILA VATSYAYAN: Sir, may I request the hon. Minister to throw a little more light on the recommendations that have been made in regard to the neighbourhood schools because it was in the reports of the Radhakrishna Commission, it was in the Mudaliar Commission; and it was in the Kothari Commission. I would also like to know how equity will be ensured in these schools. I would like to have a little elucidation on this.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: When the Bill, of course, comes to this House, it will be hopefully debated and all these aspects and the opinions of the hon. Members will be taken on record. But the neighbourhood school, as defined, — and it is not really defined in the Act itself — but what it suggests is that each State Government — because we don't want to decide for the State Governments where that school should be — in the context of its needs, in the context of populations which are concentrated in certain areas, will decide where that neighbourhood school will be. So, it caters to that local community. What is most important is that the local community must be catered to; the rural areas must be catered to. Sometimes, we have villages which have hundred people; sometimes, a thousand people. Now, where do you want that school to be located? That is something that the State Governments will decide and let us know. But within three years of that decision, that school shall be constructed. ... (Interruptions)...

DR. (SHRIMATI) KAPILA VATSYAYAN: ... rural level will also be taken into consideration. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sorry, I didn't hear that. I didn't hear that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Vatsyayan, no second question, please. Question, No. 42. ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute...(Interruptions)...

SHRIV. HANUMANTHA RAO: This is a very important issue. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ... (Interruptions)... Just a minute, I want to say something on this. ... (Interruptions)... Please sit down. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, it is a very important issue. Sir, there should be Haif-an-Hour Discussion on this. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute, please. ...(Interruptions)... Please, please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, we want Half-an-Hour Discussion on this. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...(Interruptions)... I was inundated with request for Supplementaries. Under our norms, I cannot take more than three Supplementaries. I fully realise that this is a subject in which the hon. Members are deeply interested, and, I think, we shall, as we go along, structure a proper discussion on that; and the hon. Minister has already conveyed his agreement to it. Thank you very much. ...(Interruptions)... Question 42, please.

Unutilised Foreign Assistance

*42. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has unutilised foreign assistance worth Rs. 78,000 crore and is paying commitment charges to the World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) for not using the sanctioned amount;