

commercialize Education. The Policy envisages that in the interest of maintaining standards and for several other valid reasons, the commercialization of technical and professional education will be curbed. An alternative system will be devised to involve private and voluntary efforts in Education, in conformity with accepted norms and goals.

Government had recently convened a Round Table on Higher Education on 21st October 2009 to advise on important areas of growth in the education sector including the finances to meet the demands of expansion and quality of higher education. During discussion, it was felt that in the matter of skill development and vocational education, a different model needs to be evolved which grants a greater role to the private sector and where the structural requirements of setting up institutions are far more flexible than that for other higher educational institutions. It was decided that alternative models that provide structural flexibility and financial freedom need to be evolved. The Round Table has decided to entrust the responsibility of development of a concept paper to one of its members, Shri Analjit Singh, Chairman of M/s. Max India Ltd.

Celebration of Sanskrit Week

*440. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

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

(a) the details of activities included in the celebration of 'Sanskrit Week' by Government in the last three years; and

(b) the steps his Ministry contemplates to take to make 'Sanskrit Week' an effective one?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi (RSkS), Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri / Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth (SLBSRSV), New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth (RSV), Tirupati, which are Deemed Universities, have been celebrating 'Sanskrit Week' with great enthusiasm and fervour every year in the month of August. The last day of 'Sanskrit Week', coinciding with Sharavana Purnima (Raksha Bandhan Diwas) is observed as the 'Sanskrit Diwas'. These Universities have been organizing various programmes to highlight the importance of Sanskrit language and its heritage, conducting literary and cultural competitions for students in essay writing, debate, antyakshari, music, dance, drama etc., and winners are awarded prizes at the end of the competitions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Assistance to NGOs in Uttarakhand

3237. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: