

Statement

PART—XI OF THE NATIONAL
POLICY ON EDUCATION, 1986**RESOURCES AND REVIEW**

11.1 The Education Commission of 1964—66, the National Education Policy of 1968 and practically all others concerned with education have stressed that the egalitarian goals and the practical development-oriented objectives of Indian society can be realised only by making investments in education of an order commensurate with the nature and dimensions of the task.

11.2 Resources, to the extent possible, will be raised by mobilising donations, asking the beneficiary communities to maintain school buildings and supplies of some consumables, raising fees at this higher levels of education and effecting some savings by the efficient use of facilities. Institutions involved with research and the development of technical and scientific manpower should also mobilize some funds by levying a cess or charge on the user agencies, including Government departments, and entrepreneurs. All these measures will be taken not only to reduce the burden on State resources but also for creating a greater sense of responsibility within the education system. However, such measures will contribute only marginally to the total funding. The Government and the community in general will find funds for such programmes as: the universalisation of elementary education; liquidating illiteracy; equality of access to educational opportunities to all sections throughout the country; enhancing the social relevance, quality and functional effectiveness of educational programmes; generating knowledge and developing technologies in scientific fields crucial to self-sustaining economic development; and creating a critical consciousness of the values and imperatives of national survival.

11.3 The deleterious* consequences of non-investment or inadequate investment in education are indeed very serious.

Similarly, the cost of neglecting vocational and technical education and of research is also unacceptable. Sub-optimal performance in these fields could cause irreparable damage to the Indian economy. The network of institutions set up from time to time since Independence to facilitate the application of science and technology would need to be substantially and expeditiously updated, since they are fast becoming obsolete.

11.4 In view of these imperatives, education will be treated as a crucial area of investment for national development and survival. The National Policy on Education, 1986, had laid down that the investment on education be gradually increased to reach a level of expenditure of 6 per cent of the national income as early as possible. Since the actual level of investment has remained for short of that target, it is important that greater determination be shown now to find the funds for the programmes laid down in this Policy. While the actual requirements will be computed from time to time on the basis of monitoring and review, the outlay on education will be stepped up to the extent essential for policy implementation in the Seventh Plan. It will be ensured that from the Eighth Five Year Plan onwards it will uniformly exceed to 6 percent of the National Income!

Raising literacy level

*38. SHRI KALPNATH RAI; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent estimate of the World Bank according to which the illiteracy level in India is more than 65 percent;

(b) if so, whether the above estimate represents the correct position of literacy and illiteracy in the country-, and

(c) what steps are being taken under the Seventh Five Year Plan to raise the literacy level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. According to 1981 Census, the national literacy rate is 36.23. The percentage of illiteracy therefore is 63.77.

(c) The main thrust areas in the Seventh Plan to raise the literacy level include achievement of universal elementary education, non-formal education and eradication of illiteracy in the age-group 15—35 years. National Policy on Education—1986 envisages following strategies to raise the level of literacy;

(i) systematic Programmes of adult education will be organised for eradication of illiteracy, particularly in the 15—35 age-group;

(ii) Thrust will be laid on universal enrolment and universal retention of children upto 14 years of age.

(iii) A large and systematic programme of non-formal education will be launched for school dropouts; for children from habitations without schools, working children and girls who cannot attend whole day schools.

(iv) Highest priority will be given to solve the problem of children dropping out of school by adopting meticulously formulated strategies to ensure children's retention at school.

(v) Special measure will be taken up for the removal of illiteracy among women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Multi-pronged operational strategies have been concretised in the document "Programme of Action", which was laid on the Table of the Sabha on 8th August. ... 1986, to operationalise above policy parameters.

Junior doctors demands

39. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI;
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD;

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 25,000 junior doctors of Delhi hospitals observed a token strike on October, 15, 1986 and started a hunger strike at the Boat Club from the following day;

(b) whether the striking doctors have submitted memorandum of their demands; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard to their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE)

(a) Junior doctors in six major hospitals of Delhi numbering about 2000 observed a token strike on October 15, 1986. There is no information that they started hunger strike at the Boat Club from the following day.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main demand of Junior Doctors relates to enhancement of emoluments and is being considered in consultation with Ministry of Finance and other concerned authorities.

Painting and sculpture damaged at Festivals of India in USA and France

40. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR
BIRLA;
SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE;

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that about seven of the invaluable paintings and sculptures including the third century B.C. sandstone masterpiece, the Didarganj Yakshi, have been damaged at the Festivals of India in France and U.S.A.;