

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) No such earmarked allocation has been made except under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme for introducing modern subjects in Madarsas volunteering to do so. An action plan to address issues of educational backwardness among the Muslim Community pointed out by the "Sachar" Committee is under consideration.

**Students dropping out due to ragging**

\*552. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of students who drop out due to ragging every year from different institutions in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to bring ragging within the criminal law; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) No information is maintained by the Government regarding the percentage of students dropping out due to ragging every year from different institutions.

Offences, *inter alia* those, affecting public tranquillity, decency, morals, the human body and property, as well as those relating to criminal intimidation and insult, whether committed as a part of 'ragging' or otherwise, are already punishable under the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

**Report of the committee of secretaries**

\*553. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the report of the Committee of Secretaries, which was appointed by her Ministry at the direction of Prime Minister;

(b) whether the Committee has suggested any increase in remuneration;

(c) whether the Committee has suggested any 'parting gift' to retired Anganwadi workers; and