

### **Setting up of vocational educational institutions**

\*317. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government has sent any proposal to the Central Government for setting up of various vocational educational institutions on the basis of Public-Private-Partnership (PPP), particularly from the State Governments of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government has issued any guidelines for setting up and running of vocational educational institutions on the basis of PPP; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (d) Under the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education there is no provision for setting up vocational educational institutions in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode and therefore the question of formulating guidelines for running of these institutions in PPP mode does not arise.

Under the scheme of Sub-Mission on Polytechnics, 300 polytechnics are to be set up in public-private-partnership (PPP) mode. Guidelines for setting up these polytechnics have not been issued. Proposals would be invited after issue of guidelines.

University Grants Commission (UGC) runs a scheme of "Introduction of Career Oriented Courses in Universities and Colleges". Under the scheme all colleges and universities recognized by the UGC under Section 2(f) and 12 (B) of UGC Act, 1956 are eligible for implementing the scheme. Financial assistance of Rs. 7.00 lakh per course for Humanities and Commerce and Rs. 10.00 lakh per course for Science stream as one time 'Seed Money' for five years is provided. The colleges and universities can opt for a maximum of three courses. UGC has identified 618 career oriented courses (vocational courses) for assistance under the scheme.

No proposal for setting up vocational educational institutions has been received from the State Governments of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. 53 proposals have been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh under the Scheme of Sub-Mission on Polytechnics.

### **Implementation of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme**

\*318. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme is not properly implemented in the schools; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to implement it effectively?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) The responsibility for ensuring logistic and administrative arrangements for serving wholesome and regular cooked mid day meal in every eligible school/institution lies with State Governments/UT administrations. The Central Government continuously monitors the

implementation of the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) regularly through Regional and National level meetings with focus on coverage, quality, safety, regularity and transparency. Critical issues are brought to the notice of States/UTs for necessary corrective action to further improve the quality of implementation of MDMS. The performance of the States/UTs is also reviewed through the half-yearly reports of 42 Monitoring Institutions and through Quarterly Progress Reports received from States/UTs.

Besides the above, all schools and centres are required to display the daily menu and information on quantity of food grains received, date of receipt, quantity of food grains utilized etc. 25% of schools/centres are required to be visited every quarter by supervisory officers. 1.8 per cent of the total cost of foodgrain, cooking cost and transportation of foodgrain, is provided to States/UTs for Monitoring, Management and Evaluation of MDMS.

In order to improve the implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme, the Government has revised the food norm for upper primary children by increasing the quantity of pulses from 25 to 30 grams, vegetables from 65 to 75 grams and by decreasing the quantity of oil and fats from 10 to 7.5 grams. It has also revised the cooking cost (excluding the labour and administrative charges) to Rs. 2.69 for primary and Rs. 4.03 for upper primary children from 1.4.2010. A separate component for payment of honorarium of Rs. 1000 per month to cook-cum-helper and a norm for engaging cook-cum-helper have been introduced. Instead of a flat cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store for the whole country, it is now being determined on the basis of the State Schedule of Rates and the prescribed plinth area norm. Transportation assistance in the 11 Special Category States (*viz.* Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Tripura) has been made at par with the Public Distribution System (PDS) rates prevalent in these States.

#### **Doubling of Delhi-Dehradun line**

†\*319. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that contrary to other rail links connecting two major metropolitan cities, the Delhi-Dehradun rail section has a single line for nearly 200 km. stretch;
- (b) whether there is any plan of doubling this important single rail line; and
- (c) if so, the time by when this work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) The doubling of a line is taken up on traffic consideration to create additional capacity where the existing line is saturated or getting saturated as per the traffic forecast. Dehradun is connected to Delhi through two alternate routes. Main route is via Meerut, Tapri, Sharanpur, Laksar on which double line exists from Delhi to Meerut, from Tapri to Sharanpur and from Saharanpur to Laksar. Alternate route is *via* Shahdara, Shamli, Tapri, Sharanpur, Laksar on which Tapri-Saharanpur-Laksar is double line. The work of new line from Deoband to Roorkee has been taken up which on

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.