

(a) whether Government is considering to facilitate teachers with housing amenities and other necessary facilities in the country like other Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how much funds will be required to provide housing facilities to teachers; and

(c) the details of extra source of funds for considering housing facilities to the teachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, a centrally sponsored scheme to enhance access to secondary education and improve its quality, *inter alia*, provides for residential quarters for teachers in remote and hilly areas with difficult terrain. The requirement of funds for this activity depends on the proposals of States. Various States also have their own programmes of provision of housing facilities to its teachers.

Proposed changes in education policy

‡3916. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to change present education system and to work on the lines of foreign education institutions;

(b) whether Government is preparing any programme to bring changes in the education policy formulated in the year 1962 in the country;

(c) whether the present education policy is responsible for the backwardness of the country in the field of education; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the change in policy would be helpful in providing higher education to all sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Government is following National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992). It is based on an in-depth review of the educational situation and national consensus. It provides for National System of Education implying that upto a given level, all students irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. The National System of Education envisages a common educational structure. The 10+2+3 structure has now been accepted in most parts of the country. The present educational policy has helped emerging India as a Knowledge Country. Educational Reforms are a continuous process and the Eleventh Five Year Plan seeks to carry them forward through expansion, the inclusion and rapid improvement in quality, through institutional and policy reforms and by enhancing public spending.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.