

[11 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

teaching of Regional languages from classes IV to VIII provided that there are 20 or more students willing to study the language.

Buddhist Educational Institutes

2260. SHRI R.N. ARYA: will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the accurate number of Buddhist Educational Institutes in India, State-wise;
- (b) the position of staff according to minority character; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to start Gautam Buddha University in G.B. Nagar, Noida, where the building was already constructed in 1997 by the U.P. Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The information with regard to Buddhist Educational Institutes of different states is not centrally maintained. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has also informed that they do not maintain such information.

(c) As per the information provided by the U.P. Government, State Govt, has not taken any decision to establish Gautam Buddha University at Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida. The State Government has also not constructed any building for the purpose in the year 1997.

Widows in Ashram

2261. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

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

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Indian Express dated 10th June, 2000 under the caption "Four girls are salvation for Vrindavan's widows";
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) whether Government propose to make any permanent