

(c) whether Government propose to establish *some* regulatory authority to standardise the courses, fees, examination procedures etc. for private institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government is aware that a large number of private institutes have been set up in the country in the area *of* computer education and training. The fees charged depend *on* the nature of the course and the demand in the market.

(c) There is at present no such proposal *under* consideration of the Government. However, there is a voluntary scheme, DOEACC under the Ministry of Information Technology for generating quality manpower in Information Technology by utilizing the expertise and infrastructure available with non-formal sector. Under the Scheme, there are four levels of Computer Courses:

'O' Level - Foundation Level,

'A' Level ♦ Advanced

Diploma Level

'B' Level - M.C.A. Level

«C Level - M. Tech

Level

(d) Does not arise.

Job Opportunities for Indian in Foreign Countries

† 2721. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employment opportunities in foreign countries have declines for Indian labour who seek employment in foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step so far to increase employment opportunities in foreign countries; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Majority of the workers emigrate to the gulf countries for contractual employment. The demand of workers in these countries has declined mainly because of slowing down of economic activities, growing emphasis on providing employment to the local persons and efforts by these countries to maintain some sort of ethnic balance. The demand for workers is determined by the policies of these countries. However, the Indian Missions maintain constant liaison with the Governments of these countries in the matter.

Child Labour in Bihar

2722. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have surveyed the number of child labour in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of child labour engaged in hazardous occupations; and
- (d) action being taken by Government for the Welfare of child labour and, for the abolition of child labour in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) As per information received from the State Government of Bihar, in pursuance of direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement in writ petition No. 465/86 dated 10.12.96, a survey on child labour was conducted according to which 24,879 child labour were identified in hazardous occupations, (d) Bihar Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 1995 have been framed and Bihar Child Labour Commission Act, 1996 has been passed.

In accordance with section 17 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, all DM's/DCVSDO's/COs/Circle