

(a) whether Government has proposed to merge All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) and All India Pre-Medical Test (AIPMT) which are being conducted by CBSE separately till now into single examination from 2010;

(b) the manner in which this proposal will help the students seeking admission into engineering and medical streams;

(c) whether State Governments are also supportive of this proposal;

(d) whether Government has decided to give weightage to the marks of Class XII when appearing in engineering tests for professional and other courses; and

(e) the details of the proposed plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The All India Engineering Entrance Examination, 2010 and All India Pre-Medical Test, 2010 will be conducted separately. However, there is a proposal with Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to combine these two examinations in future so that the candidates seeking admission to different courses would be spared the bother of appearing in multiple entrance examinations.

(c) In the meeting of the State Education Ministers held on 18.06.2010, there was a consensus to reduce the multiplicity of entrance examinations.

(d) No such decision has been taken.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation to Bihar under Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2981. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount allocated under Centrally Sponsored Schemes to Bihar during financial years 1998-2004 and 2004-10, scheme-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount released against above allotment during above periods, scheme-wise and year-wise;

- (c) the amount spent by the State Government against above allotment and release; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) had not implemented any Centrally Sponsored Scheme during financial years 1998-2004 and 2004-10, except the 'Scheme for Co-operativisation in the Coir Sector' which focused on the coir producing States only and this Scheme too was discontinued during the XI Plan due to poor response from the State Governments. No funds could be allocated to Bihar, which is not a coir producing State, under the above-mentioned Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Economic viability of women-special-trains

2982. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey to know the economic viability of running the women-special-trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to review its decision and cut down the number of coaches from the existing ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Introduction of women special trains is done in order to improve the railway travel for women and is decided on the basis of traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource availability.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Doubling of rail lines in Gujarat

2983. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for doubling of Ahmedabad-Mehsana-Jaipur, Rajkot-Veraval, Rajkot-Viramgam and Rajkot-Okha railway lines; and