

Special schools for mentally retarded and visually handicapped

‡3294. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals relating to special schools for mentally retarded and visually handicapped children received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh during the last five years alongwith the amount earmarked for all pending proposals and the action taken by the Ministry so far after receiving these proposals;

(b) the reasons why the proposals received from the State Government are pending till date;

(c) whether any time-limit has been prescribed for disposal of these proposals;

(d) whether developmental work are not hampered due to the long time taken for approval of these proposals; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) 78 proposals relating to Special Schools for mentally retarded and visually handicapped children were received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh during the last five years. An amount of Rs.445.55 lakhs was released during the same period. 8 proposals recommended by the State Government amounting to Rs. 61.52 lakhs are pending as on date. These proposals are pending for various reasons such as clarifications from State Governments, complaints received against the Organizations and pending inquiry.

(c) to (e) Grant in Aid is released based on the receipt of the completed proposals duly recommended by the State Government Grant in Aid Committee. However, efforts are made to pursue the State Governments to send the proposals in time and to consider them expeditiously.

National Commission for Scheduled Caste

‡3295. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH KESARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the then Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Castes Shri Buta Singh and its Member Shri Mahender Boudh remained in the seat despite losing the Lok Sabha and Assembly election in 2009 and 2008, respectively;

(b) if so, the quantum of amount spent on their salary, allowances and travel allowances from the date of their losing election to the date of completion of term alongwith the head under which payment was made; and

(c) the rule under which above payment was made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Yes, Sir.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC), Shri Buta Singh, former Chairperson National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) was paid a sum of Rs. 6,18,935/- and Rs. 6,21,137/- (including attendant) as salary and travel allowance respectively during the period from May, 2009 to May, 2010. Shri Mahendra Boudh, former Member of the Commission was paid a sum of Rs. 18,01,665/- and Rs. 6,11,323/- as salary and travel allowance respectively during the period from December, 2008 to May, 2010. The expenditure towards salary and travel allowance of both the above functionaries was booked under Major Head 2225 Minor Head 01.00.01 for salary and 01.00.11 for travel allowance. The former Chairman and Members of the Commission were paid salary and allowances as per Rule 6 of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members (Conditions of Service and Tenure) Rules, 2004.

Dalit people among the Muslims and Christians

‡3296. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dalit people have been categorized among Muslims and Christians;
- (b) whether any survey had been conducted ever in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) Scheduled Castes have been specified in six Presidential Orders, in respect of various States/Union Territories. These Orders, *inter-alia*, contain a clause that "no person who professes a religion different from the Hindu, the Sikh or the Buddhist religion shall be deemed to be a Member of a Scheduled Caste".

Grant-in-aid to S&T Laboratories

3297. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state whether Government reduces grant-in-aid to Science and Technology Laboratories to encourage self sufficiency by earning through patent and educational and Training institution under the Laboratories and Research units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): No, Sir. Government has progressively enhanced budgetary support to Science and Technology Institutes/Laboratories.

Dyslexic children

3298. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of dyslexic children in the country;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.