

(b) if so, the scheme formulated by Government too provide various facilities and opportunities to this community in the field of education and by when the scheme would commence and by when it would be completed, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to open more Muslim universities as per the requirement in other States on the lines of Aligarh Muslim University to educationally strengthen the Muslim community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The report of a High Power Panel on minorities, SC/ST and other weaker section, appointed by Ministry of Home Affairs and Headed by Dr. Gopal Singh, has identified Muslims as educationally backward at the national level.

Two schemes of Area Intensive Programme for educationally backward minorities and other scheme of financial assistance for modernisation of Madrasa education have been in operation since 1993. In the Xth Plan, two schemes have been merged and renamed as the scheme of Area intensive and Madrasa Modernisation Programme. The first Component of Infrastructure Development is restricted to 325 blocks and 4 districts of Assam identified as having a concentration of educationally backward minorities. The second Component of Madrasa Modernisation is spread over all the country. The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions has been brought into force by an Act of Parliament, under which minority educational institutions can seek affiliation to the Scheduled Universities. The University of Delhi; The North Eastern Hill University; The Pondicherry University; The Assam University; The Nagaland University and The Mizoram University are at present in the Schedule.

(c) There is no proposal to open more Muslim university.

New Transfer Policy in KVS

†4096. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new transfer policy in Kendriya Vidyalayas,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether this policy has been implemented;

(c) the number of applications received under the new policy and the number of the applications on which the action has already been completed; and

(d) whether the action is completed within a time frame, and if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) New transfer guidelines have come into force w.e.f. 19.1.2005. The transfer guidelines have been given *vide* publicity and also hosted on the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan website. Transfers will now be effected against clear vacancies. In the event of non-availability of vacancies, need based creation of vacancies will be resorted to accommodate the request of those who are covered under the medical grounds, death of spouse within a period of 2 years from the date of death, individuals having less than 3 years to retire and those who have completed their prescribed period of stay of 2 years at very hard or 3 years at hard station/North Eastern Region/Andaman/Sikkim.

(b) to (d) Around 11,250 applications have been received after new transfer guidelines came into affect. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has informed that annual transfers would be made during the summer vacations.

Shortage of students in rural areas

4097. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the National Rural Teachers Conference, it is clear that the shortage of students that seems to worry the teachers the most in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that most of the parents in the rural areas are not interested in sending their wards to schools; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?