

Allocation for Elementary Education and Mid-Day Meal Scheme

4086. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budgetary allocations for the elementary education and mid-day meal scheme are inadequate considering the targets set on both counts;

(b) whether the incremental allocation of Rs. 3142.00 crores for the Integrated Child Development Scheme is not adequate to cover the required cost of universal coverage of 17 lakh habitations in the country; and

(c) whether against the existing 6.412 lakh anganwadis handling supplementary nutrition programmes, there is a need for 17 lakh anganwadis for universal coverage based on the existing norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Requirements of Elementary Education including Mid-Day Meal programme for 2005-06 have been almost fully provided for.

(b) and (c) As on 31.12.2004, numbers of sanctioned and operational Anganwadis were 7.55 lakh and 6.99 lakh respectively. As per existing norms, requirement of additional anganwadis is 1.88 lakh.

Budget Estimate for 2005-06 for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) is Rs. 3685.30 crore. Additional allocation, if required, would be sought at RE stage.

Primary and Upper Primary Urdu Education

4087. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 85 per cent of Urdu-speaking population live in four States-Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, but adequate facilities for imparting primary and upper primary Urdu education are not available there;

(b) if so, whether it is due to lack of financial resources, Urdu teachers and non-Urdu-inclusion curriculum; and