

Status of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

642. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to increase its public expenditure on education from the present less than 3 per cent of GDP to 6 per cent. of GDP over the next years to cover the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-day meals schemes;

(b) how Government propose to cover the additional gap like providing 10 per cent of the budget for North-East and Rs. 240 crores required for the adult education programme; and

(c) whether the inflow from education cess is upto the expected quantum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) of the Government pledges to raise public spending in education to at least 6% of GDP with at least half of this amount being spent on primary and secondary sectors in a phased manner.

(b) The 10 per cent. provision for NER is part of the overall outlays. The enhanced outlays are intended to cover the requirements of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid-Day Meal scheme, in addition to the other schemes and programmes including Adult Education which are also important components of the overall programmes of the Department of Elementary Education & Literacy.

(c) The revised estimates for 2004-05 for receipts on account of Education Cess are Rs. 5010 crore as against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 4910 crore, as reflected in the Receipts Budget 2005-06 of the Ministry of Finance.

Regulation of fees and admissions in private colleges

643. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to regulate the fees and admissions in 4000 private colleges functioning across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its present status;

(c) whether views of the States Government have been ascertained, especially relating to higher education which is included in the concurrent list;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve uniformity while respecting freedom of the States to take into account their local conditions in deciding the fees and admission policy of the respective institutes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) A Central legislation has been drafted for vetting for the regulation of admission and fixation of fee in private aided and unaided professional colleges by concerned departments for obtaining views of various stakeholders including State Governments.

Child death rate

644. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 2.60 crore new born children 12 lac children die in first four weeks of their life and another 8 lac die before completing one year;

(b) what steps are being taken to reduce child death rate and the target set for this and for coming years;

(c) what is the estimated number of children suffering from Malnutrition as on the 31st December, 2004; and

(d) whether it is a fact that at every minute one child dies of malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.