

(b) whether the National Commission for Women has highlighted this problem to Government;

(c) whether the Commission has made any recommendations in this behalf; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. The National Commission for Women has highlighted the problem in Gender Profiles titled 'A Situational Analysis of Women & Girls' pertaining to the states of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan.

(c) The National Commission for Women has recommended to the State Government to take appropriate steps to check the declining sex ratio by strict observance and implementation of PNDT Act and control on the clinics using Sonographics and Ultrasound machines for sex determination.

(d) The action taken by the Government are as under:

(i) The Government has requested all State Governments and Union Territories for strict implementation of "Pre-conception and Pre-Natal diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex selection) Act, 1994".

(ii) The States/UTs have been requested to ensure wide publicity to the provisions of Act.

(iii) The awareness generation activities are undertaken through radio, television and print media against pre-determination of sex and female foeticide.

(iv) Workshops and seminars are being organised to create awareness against this social evil.

(v) Action is being taken by States/UTs against the violators of Act.

Union Territory Commission

637. SHRIR.K.ANAND:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

[9 March, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a Union Territory Commission for Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the time frame therefor;

(c) whether the National Commission for women has made any recommendations in this behalf; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Setting up of women commission at the Union Territory (UT) level falls within the purview of the concerned UT Administrations.

(c) and (d) During a state visit to the Chandigarh Union Territory on 15.9.2004, the National Commission for women had taken up the issue of setting up of Chandigarh Commission for Women with the UT Administrations. The Administration has agreed to proceed in this matter.

Evaluation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

638. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:

PROF. M.M. AGARWAL:

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

(a) whether Government have evaluated Performance of the major literacy programme "Sarva Siksha Abhiyan" (SSA);

(b) what are the results;

(c) by when, Government claim to achieve 100 per cent literacy goal;

(d) the funds allotted to achieve the above goal; and

(e) the extent to which Government are taking help of UNESCO to achieve the above goal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The first review of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was conducted by an independent Joint Review Mission (JRM) during January-February 2005 in 8 States of the country. The review has shown satisfactory progress.

(c) to (e) The goal of the National Literacy Mission (NLM) is to attain a sustainable threshold literacy rate of 75% by 2007. An amount of