

there, and also to require every existing institution of this kind to admit at least half of its students from among the talented but economically handicapped students, and to give freeships to them.

(b) The question of asking the public schools to reserve a certain percentage of seats for children whose parents income is Rs. 500/- or less per month was previously considered in the context of the recommendation of the Committee of the Fourth Lok Sabha. The legal opinion tendered was that the seats could be reserved only if the managements of the concerned schools gave their consents to it.

Socially Useful Productive Works in Schools

305. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

SHRI L. R. NAIK:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that students entering class IX in schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education are required to spend some of their time for socially useful productive work from the current academic session and that the academic load on them will be reduced; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b) The Central Board of Secondary Education in pursuance of the recommendations of the Ishwarbhai Patel Review Committee

on the curriculum for the Ten-Year School has decided to introduce Socially useful Productive Work as a compulsory subject. This will come into effect from the next academic session i.e. 1978-80 both at the Secondary and Senior Secondary stages. The details of the Syllabus are being worked out.

As regard the academic load this was reduced even for the 1978 examinations, on the basis of the deletions suggested by the Ishwarbhai Patel Committee. For the 1978-79 session there will be further reduction in the Social Studies subject by dropping economics and commerce.

Decontrol of Sugarcane Price

306. SHRI ARVIND GANESH

KULKARNI:

SHRIMATI USHI KHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of crisis in the sugar industry due to its over production and non-payment of dues to the sugarcane growers;

(b) whether Government propose to decontrol sugarcane prices in view of its over production;

(c) whether Government propose to create a buffer stock of sugar in order to help the sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) while reviewing the Sugar Policy, Government will examine among other measures the feasibility of creating a buffer stock of sugar as well.