

Parents/Teachers Association are held at periodical intervals and parents can also advise the teacher for suitable option in respect of their ward. However, students have the freedom to change the medium of examination during the academic year.

Setting up of Navodaya Vidyalayas

1282. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the States/UTs in which Navodaya Vidyalayas have not been set up so far;
- (b) whether Government would set up Navodaya Vidyalayas in such States/UTs without making Hindi compulsory; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Navodaya Vidyalayas have not yet been set up in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) The Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme envisages three language formula with medium of instruction for children as mother tongue or the regional language, up to VIII class. In non-Hindi speaking States, the concerned regional language is studied as first language and Hindi is studied as a third language from class VI to X only. There is no proposal to deviate from the existing policy.

Foreign Universities and Colleges under the ambit of UGC

1283. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government are bringing foreign universities and colleges under the ambit of UGC to standardize the curriculum etc.;
- (b) what is the outcome to the two-days State Education Ministers Conference held recently in Bangalore; and
- (c) the details of the foreign universities and colleges through affiliations, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) In the Conference of State Ministers of Higher and Technical Education held at Bangalore in January, 2005, there was a general consensus among the States for a Central Legislation regarding the issue relating to admission and regulation of fee. Accordingly, legislation has been drafted for vetting by concerned departments for circulation among the various stakeholders including the State Governments.

A Committee of experts has been constituted to examine all the relevant issues pertaining to the entry of foreign universities in India.

Authentication of Certificates

1284. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian citizens intending to go abroad for employment have to get their certificates of educational qualifications authenticated by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the requirements; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to facilitate the authentication to help Indian citizens who are seeking employment opportunity abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD.ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir. Only some countries in the Middle East, Africa and some parts of Europe insist on authentication of certificates of educational qualifications by Ministry of Human Resource Development for Indian citizens intending to go to these countries for employment.

(b) The candidates desiring to go abroad to these countries for employment are required to get their educational certificates authenticated by Ministry of Human Resource Development and later attested by Ministry of External Affairs and the concerned Embassy of the country where employment opportunity is being sought.

(c) To facilitate authentication of educational certificates, this Ministry in consultation with Ministry of External Affairs has decentralized the power