

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) During the last three years, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, 28 cases of children falling ill under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) have come to the notice of the Government. Of these, 3 belong to Delhi, 9 to Uttar Pradesh, 4 to Bihar, 3 to Jharkhand, 2 each to Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana, and 1 each to Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Maharashtra. All such cases were referred to the concerned States/UTs for investigation and appropriate remedial action so that the recurrence of such incidents is avoided in future. The State Governments/UT Administrations have also taken appropriate action which *inter alia* includes filing FIR against NGOs/service providers, taking departmental action against teachers and Headmasters and removal of concerned cooks.

(e) The performance of a State/UT is monitored and reviewed by the Programme Approval Board for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme while approving the Annual Work Plan and Budget for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme for the coming year. Apart from this, National/State/District/Block level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committees are constituted to monitor the implementation of the scheme. The Central Government monitors the progress of the scheme through National, State level meetings; the Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) and the Review Missions. In addition, 42 reputed institutions have been engaged to monitor the implementation of the scheme independently through field inspections and submission of six monthly reports for remedial action.

Derogatory remarks in ICSE text books

1945. SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that derogatory remarks have been made against leaders of freedom struggle in ICSE History and Civics Part 2 text books viz. Tilak is known as the Father of Militant or Radical Nationalism or Extremism in India (P-117), Lala Lajpat Rai was also a great extremist leader (P-118), Bipin Chandra Pal was also one of the eminent extremist leaders (P-119) and revival of terrorism by the martyrdom of Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukhdev (P-190);

(b) whether steps have been taken to remove these remarks; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations has informed that it prescribes textbooks only for the study of Literature in English and in other Indian Languages. It does not prescribe or recommend any textbooks. Schools are free to choose the books which they find suitable.

The Council has also informed that the matter about alleged derogatory remarks in the text books is *sub judice* at present. The publishers have taken the stand that they brought out a new edition wherein the objectionable words have been removed.

National Book Promotion Policy

†1946. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the task force constituted in February this year for formulating National Book Promotion Policy has presented its recommendations to Government;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir. The Task Force has prepared a draft of the 'National Book Promotion Policy' which is being considered in consultation with various stakeholders. So far five meetings of Task Force has been held for consideration of the Draft 'National Book Promotion Policy.' A Round Table Discussion under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development was also held on 16.10.2010.

- (b) and (c) Not applicable.

Slashing of grants by foreign universities

1947. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that foreign universities have slashed grants;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether this would affect the Indian students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Universities established and functioning in foreign countries, are not under jurisdiction of the Government of India; and, therefore, no such information is maintained.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) The choice to pursue education in foreign universities by Indian students is not regulated by the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.