

[13 March, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) and (e) All States and Union Territories are participating in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme.

Selection of candidates for admission to Medical, Dental and Engineering courses

2190 SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the present status of the proposal of the Karnataka Government for the inclusion of the Karnataka Selection of Candidates for Admission to Medical, Dental and Engineering Courses (Special Provision) Act, 2004 in the IXth Schedule to the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): The Constitution (Ninety-third Amendment) Act, 2005 has come into force with effect from 20.01.2006. By inserting a new clause (5) in Article 15 of the Constitution this amendment has enabled State Governments to make special provision, by law for their States for the advancement of the SCs, the STs and any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens in admissions to all educational institutions, including aided or unaided private educational institutions, except minority educational institutions established under Article 30(1) of the Constitution.

On 24th January, 2006, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development has written to the Chief Ministers of all the States to take necessary steps in the direction of formulating appropriate State Law to give effect to the provisions of Article 15(5) in respect of admissions to the unaided private educational institutions in the respective States and also indicating that the States would be competent to make a comprehensive legislation in keeping with local conditions covering all matters including (i) Reservation of Seats (ii) Differential Fee Structure and (iii) Separate Admission Procedure.

Schemes in Bihar and Maharashtra

2191. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided to State Governments particularly Bihar and

Maharashtra under various schemes during the last four years, scheme-wise:

(b) whether the sanctioned-amount is utilized by State Governments for the purpose for which it was provided;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The details of the amount released to the State Governments including the State of Bihar and Maharashtra under various schemes of the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy and the Department of Secondary and Higher Education during last four years is given in the Annexure (see Appendix 207 Annexure No. 8) Grants released to State Governments under the centrally sponsored schemes are indicative of the utilisation of previous funds by States as fresh releases are made primarily on the basis of the progress of utilisation of the funds released in previous years apart from other parameters like the proposals received, availability of resources under various schemas.

Screening films for festivals

2192. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a policy that will not require movies to be cleared by the Censor Board prior to being screened at the film festivals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this will smoothen the process of getting foreign films for festivals in our country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The Government has taken a policy decision to support film festivals by according exemption from certification to certain categories of films. However, this is subject to a formal application to the Ministry of i&B and fulfillment of some prerequisites.