

- (a) the total number of linguistic minority schools in Assam;
- (b) the total number of Bengali schools given Central Grants-in-aid in Assam in the last three years;
- (c) the teacher-student ratio therein;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that there have been appointment of more non- Bengali teachers in the Bengali medium schools which has resulted in communication problem; and
- (e) the actions taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Minority institutions in North-Eastern Region

3341. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the minority institutions registered in North Eastern Region especially Assam and how many cases are pending in the Ministry for registration; and
- (b) the steps taken to expedite the applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) This Ministry does not decide minority status of educational institutions. Minority status of educational institutions is decided by the concerned State? Government or the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI). The NCMEI has reported that it has issued minority status certificates to 208 institutions in North Eastern Region, out of which 136 institutions are in Assam, as on 31.07.2011. The NCMEI has also reported that it does not maintain data about pendency of petitions for grant of minority status, statewide, since registration of petitions is an ongoing process.

(b) NCMEI has reported that in order to expedite disposal of petitions, the number of sittings as well as number of cases heard by NCMEI at each of its sittings have been increased. The NCMEI does not allow requests for frequent adjournments.