

Opening of more Central Schools

1495. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up Central Schools in districts where such schools are not in existence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that setting up of more Central Schools will help to act as a level playing measure; and
- (d) if so, the total amount earmarked for opening of more Central Schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) to cater to the education requirement of uncovered areas is a continuous process. KVs are set up to cater to the educational needs of the wards of the transferable Central Government employees including Defence and Para-Military forces. These are opened on the request of the various Ministries of Government of India and State Governments/Union Territories subject to availability of funds and fulfillment of certain terms and conditions for setting up a new Kendriya Vidyalaya and are not district specific. At present there are 223 district in the country which have no KV in the Civil Sector.

(c) KVs are pace setting institutions and setting up of more KVs is likely to result in widespread use of better teaching practices.

(d) Funds will be earmarked for new KVs under Twelfth Five Year Plan and apportioned on year to year basis accordingly

Task Force to monitor higher education

1496. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up a Task Force to monitor higher education;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government had undertaken higher education survey in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is also a fact that the inputs received during the survey had demanded many reforms in the higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) With the growing size and diversity of the higher