

ensure access and participation of each child of 6-14 years in elementary schooling. In addition, SSA also provides for specific interventions for girls, SC, ST, and Muslim community. Mid-Day Meal programme also complements the strategy to ensure access and participation of each child of 6-14 years in elementary schooling.

Requests of foreign universities for opening their institutions

†1489. SHRI PRAVIN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal regarding entry and running of foreign universities and educational institutions in the country has been finalized;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of foreign institutions whose requests have been received by Government; and
- (d) the States in which requests have been received to start these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) A legislative proposal, namely, the Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation for Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Parliament on 3.5.2010 and has been referred to the department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development.

- (b) The proposed law seeks to put in place a mechanism to facilitate the entry and regulation of reputed foreign educational institutions, while preventing the entry of those of dubious quality.
- (c) No request has been received in this regard.
- (d) Question does not arise.

Accreditation of schools by CBSE

1490. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that CBSE is likely to start accreditation of schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) to what extent it is likely to improve the performance of schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to accredit the affiliated schools, once in every three years, in the following areas:-

- Academic Processes and Outcomes
- Co-scholastic Processes and Outcomes
- Infrastructure - adequacy, functionality and aesthetics
- Human Resources
- Management and Administration
- Leadership
- Beneficiary Satisfaction

(b) and (c) The accreditation would help set benchmarks in the identified areas.

Irregularities in utilization of British financial assistance for SSA

†1491. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the data of Department for International Development, 24 per cent of the British financial assistance to India is given for education and as per the remarks of Auditor General of India, published in an international newspaper, an amount of ₹ 1.40 crore under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was spent on such items and luxuries which have nothing to do with schools and a big chunk of this sum was spent on such schools which have no existence at all; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to check corruption in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Several Newspapers had reported in June, 2010 that United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) is launching an inquiry into the alleged misuse of funds under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). DFID has, however, clarified that the U.K. Government is not proposing to investigate SSA. DFID has also stated that the SSA programme is considered amongst the most successful elementary education programmes, and DFID is proud to support it. DFID's Internal Audit Department (IAD) had, however, conducted an inquiry into UK assistance to SSA. The auditors have judged that DFID has adequate financial controls to manage its funding to SSA.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.