

(a) whether Government have decided to run 1560 Fast Track Courts for the next five years;

(b) whether the Fast Track Courts would continue to function under the present arrangement and would entail an outgo of Rs. 509 crore over five years beginning from April 1, 2005; and

(c) if so, to what extent these Fast Track Courts have been helpful in reducing the burden of long pending cases in the High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Fast Track Courts are functioning at the subordinate judiciary level to dispose of long pending cases. The Fast Track Courts have so far disposed of 7.94 lakh cases out of 15.28 lakh cases transferred to them.

Child Education

*12. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to take over the responsibility of education to all the children of age group six to fourteen years irrespective of the financial capability of their parents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the manner in which hundred per cent education would become possible?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Provision of Free and Compulsory Education to children of 6-14 years is a Constitutional mandate. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which aims to achieve universal retention at the elementary stage by the year 2010, Central Government gives assistance to States, *inter alia*, for provision of free textbooks to all girls and SC/ST boys. Under this scheme, Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education Centres are also run for children in remote areas and those who cannot attend regular schools, and certain other incentives like free uniform to girls can also be provided in educationally backward blocks. In addition, Central Assistance

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is also being given for provision of cooked Mid-Day-Meals to children at the Primary stage, and for running residential schools for girls from weaker sections in selected educationally backward blocks. Taken together, these measures substantially address the problem of participation of children belonging to poor families in elementary education.

Performance of Government Schools

*13. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the overall results of CBSE, both of 10th and 12th class;

(b) if so, what has been the performance of the Government Schools *vis-a-vis* the public schools in Delhi, other metros and rural areas on the other hand; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating any corrective action in light of the assessment to improve performance of the Government schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESORUCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) As per the information provided by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the schools run by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti have a higher pass percentage then that of private independent schools in Delhi and in other parts of the country both in class X and XII in 2005 Board examinations. The pass percentage in the Government Schools affiliated to the CBSE run by the State Government in Delhi and in some other States/UTs are lower both in class X and XII as compared to that of private independent schools in 2005 Board examinations. The comparative pass percentage of Kendriya Vidyalayas, Jawahar Novodaya Vidyalayas, Government Schools and private independent Schools for the year 2004 and 2005 examinations are given in statement (See *below*).

While the performance of schools run by the KVS and the NVS is already better than that in Government and private independent Schools, the efforts is to maintain the levels of performance. The schools run by the Government of Delhi and other States do not fall within the purview of the Central Government.