

Mid-Day-Meal Scheme for Madarsas

3197. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan of the Ministry to extend the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme to Madarsa School; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) The Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme covers children studying in class I-VIII in all Government, Government aided, Local Body and National Child Labour Project Schools, Education Guarantee Scheme / Alternative and Innovative Education centres and also in Madarsas/ Maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Central assistance for upgradation of engineering college

3198. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a scheme of ₹ 6.00 crore between Government of Himachal Pradesh and Central Government is pending for last three-four years which was based on Central Assistance with Centre: State ratio of 75:25 for modernization/upgradation of Jawaharlal Nehru Government Engineering College, Sunder Nagar, District Mandi in Himachal Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay and by when the modernization/upgradation will be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There was a proposal to upgrade 200 Engineering Colleges through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) but the proposal was subsequently dropped. A CSS for incentivisation of States was also proposed in the XI Plan. However, the Planning Commission did not approve the Scheme and asked this Ministry to take up the scheme in XII Plan.

Standard of education

3199. SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the standard of education in our country as compared to that in advanced countries; and