Starred Questions

(c) to (e) A list of equipment, imported by private agencies including Ericsson India, ZTE Telecom, Motorola India, Reliance Telecom and Airtel during 2007-2010, containing details of Import of multi channel GSM/CDMA receiver, .transmitter and trans-receivers, compiled by Central Board of Direct Taxes was forwarded by Ministry of Home Affairs to get the location, use and capabilities of these equipments. During verification, it came to notice that service providers are using such kind of multi channel GSM/CDMA receivers, transmitter and trans-receivers in normal mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTS). Equipment like mobile phones, filters *etc.* were also included in the said list.

As per the verification carried out so far, no case regarding availability of 'Off-the-air monitoring equipments' and usage thereof, by the companies like Ericsson India, ZTE Telecom, Motorola India, Reliance Telecom and Airtel could be established.

## Revamping of education system

\*193. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a statement carried by The Indian Express on 31 July, 2012 that the Indian education system is in a state of emergency;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that instead of developing analytical thinking abilities, the stress is on rote learning; and

(d) if so, whether Government is proposing to revamp the education system?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Education reforms are a continuous process and the Government seeks to carry them forward through expansion, inclusion and rapid improvement in quality through institutional and policy reforms and by enhancing public spending.

In the realm of elementary education, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 which has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010 lays special focus on improving the quality of education. Further, the Government has issued an Advisory to State Governments on the implementation of section 29 of the RTE Act for initiating curriculum reform, including, (i) formulating age-appropriate curricula and syllabi in keeping with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) -2005, (ii) maintaining subject balance, (iii) initiating textbook content and production reform, (iv) ensuring continuous and comprehensive assessment for learning.

The Central Board of Secondary Education has introduced the scheme of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) in its schools in a phased manner for improvement of quality in the schools affiliated to it. The Board has also made Class X Board Examination optional for the students studying in Senior Secondary Schools and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after Class X.

At the level of higher education, University Grants Commission (UGC) has been implementing a number of schemes aimed at improvement of quality of education in Indian Universities, such as introduction of semester system, regular updating of curricula, Choice Based Credit Systems (CBCS), reforms in admission procedure and in examination and evaluation systems. All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has also formulated a National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) to solve the problem of skill manpower and unemployment.

Government has already introduced four Bills in the Parliament aiming at reforms in higher education which include proposals for prohibition of unfair practices in technical/educational institutions, medical educational institutions and universities; mandatory accreditation of higher educational institutions; educational tribunals for adjudication of disputes; and legislation to regulate entry and operation of foreign educational institutions.

## Impact of Global Warming

\*194. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the adverse impact of global warming on agriculture in the country, which has manifested unusual trends such as erratic rainfall, shrinking forest cover, rising temperature and increasing food insecurity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;