

XI” and “Politics in India since Independence - Class XII”. In addition, the Committee has made some general recommendations to be considered at the time of general review of books. NCERT enjoys full academic autonomy in the matter of developing, printing and distribution of text books. The recommendations of the Thorat Committee are being examined by NCERT through specified institutional processes and a final decision is expected to be taken shortly.

#### **Corruption in implementation of SSA in Maharashtra**

1497. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that serious cases of corruption have been detected in implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has taken on each of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has reported two cases of corruption in the implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) of which one involving about Rs.20 lakh has been enquired into and an FIR registered in district Akola. In the other a complaint about a BRC misappropriating SSA funds in district Kohlapur has been received.

#### **Racial attacks on students**

†1498. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of racial attacks on Indian students living abroad has increased;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has set up any Task Force on this issue which would look into these incidents; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such attacks on Indian students living abroad have been recognized to be racially motivated.

(c) and (d) Government of India at the Ministerial level as well as through diplomatic channels has been taking up the incidents of assaults on members of Indian community, including students, with the foreign authorities at federal and state levels resulting in several measures being put into place to improve safety and security of Indians in foreign countries.

**Financial assistance for purchasing cooking devices  
for Mid-Day-Meals**

1499. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is providing financial assistance to schools providing Mid-Day-Meal to school children to purchase cooking devices such as stoves, chullahs, containers, *etc.*;

(b) whether it is also a fact that financial assistance is also provided to purchase LPG cylinders; and

(c) if so, the details of schools that have been given this financial assistance in Andhra Pradesh during last three years, year-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One time Central assistance @ Rs. 5000/- per school is provided to States and Union Territories for provisioning of kitchen devices (Stove, Chulha, *etc.*), containers for storage of foodgrains and utensils for cooking and serving. In addition fuel cost for preparation of meal in schools is also provided to State/UTs. Besides, the State/UTs can also replace/repair/maintain the cooking devices, utensils *etc.* out of Management, Monitoring and Evaluation funds in emergent conditions.

(c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh was released a central assistance of Rs. 39.23 crore for procurement of kitchen devices, in 78,457 schools during 2006-07 to 2008-09. 14979 institutions (19% of the total) are equipped with gas based cooking appliances.