

work for inclusion of Western Ghats in the Tentative List for inscription on the World Heritage list is underway.

(b) As on date, there are five natural heritage sites that have been included in the World Heritage Sites. These sites are:—

- (i) Kaziranga National Park, (Assam);
 - (ii) Manas Tiger Reserve, (Assam);
 - (iii) Sundarbans Tiger Reserve, (West Bengal);
 - (iv) Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, (Rajasthan); and
 - (v) Nanda Devi National Park including Valley of Flowers, (Uttaranchal).
- (c) No, Sir.

Education for girl child

*165. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister for HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that Government have decided to provide free education from VI to XII to every girl from a 'single child family' in schools affiliated to CBSE;

whether it is also a fact that UGC is also planning to launch a postgraduate scholarship for girls who have come from 'single child family';

if so, the details thereof;

the sources from where his Ministry is going to pool the resources for implementation of these two schemes; and

whether his Ministry can think of getting some money from Prathamik Shiksha Kosh for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has, *vide* its circular dated 18.10.2005, directed schools affiliated to it to provide full waiver of all fees (including tuition fee and all other fees under any head except meals & transportation) charged by them, to each girl student from class VI onwards who is a "Single Child" of her parents either with immediate effect or from the next academic session. Affiliation Bye-laws of the Board have been amended accordingly.

[5 December, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

CBSE has also made a provision for single girl child in its two other scholarship schemes, namely CBSE merit scholarship scheme for under graduate students (@Rs. 500/- per month) and CBSE merit scholarship scheme for professional studies (@Rs. 1000/- per month).

UGC has also launched a Post Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarship Scheme for Single Girl Child under which 1200 scholarships per year @ Rs. 2000- p.m. will be provided. Besides, no tuition fees will be charged from such girls, who pursue Masters degree in Universities and Colleges covered under Sections 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act.

Financial implications of "Fee Waiver to Single Girl Child" and "Post Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarships" will be borne by the Schools affiliated to CBSE, and the University Grants Commission, respectively.

No, Sir.

Programmes for street children

*166. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

whether Government have conducted any survey on the number of street children living Below Poverty Line in the country;

if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps for imparting proper education and for the welfare of these students;

if so, the details thereof and the achievements made/proposed to be made thereon;

whether Government have taken note of the developments in this regard in other countries; and

if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Central Government has not conducted any survey. According to information available, the Vagrancy Directorate, Government of West Bengal had carried out a mapping of the number of street children in 69 wards out of a total of 141 wards under Kolkata Municipal Corporation. As street children are those without their own home or family, they are generally below the poverty line.