

the expected Plan outlay thereof, State-wise, and particularly for Uttar Pradesh;

by when such financial assistance would be given to the States; and

whether Government have made any anticipation on the quality improvements as outcome of the implementation of the project and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e) A composite scheme of "Quality Improvement in Schools" has been recently approved, clubbing the following schemes which were being implemented by the Department of Secondary & Higher Education:—

- (i) Improvement of Science Education in Schools;
- (ii) Environmental Orientation to School Education;
- (iii) National Population Education Project;
- (iv) Introduction of Yoga in schools; and
- (v) International Science Olympiad in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Informatics.

The total Tenth Plan Outlay for the scheme of Quality Improvement in Schools is Rs. 115.00 crore. It has been decided, among other things, to transfer the component "Improvement of Science Education in Schools" to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations as State Sector Scheme. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh, along with other States, would be benefited under the scheme. It has also been decided that the administration of the other four components, which normally cater to the Non Governmental Organizations, would be done by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an autonomous body under the Department of Secondary and Higher Education.

Impact of books on children

†1228. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[5 December, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

whether it is a fact that the new book under the Harry Potter series titled "Harry Potter and Half Blood Prince" and stories of other books under the same series are just glorification of monstrous world of demons which are casting a very bad effect on the minds of innocent children;

if so, whether it is a fact that the children of developed Countries don't hesitate in opening fire even on their friends, teachers and parents after reading such books and after watching violent films on televisions; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to stop development of such violent emotions in the minds of the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) No information on this subject is available with Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Draft legislation on Common Entrance Test

1229. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Karnataka Government had written to the Centre asking for a comprehensive draft of the proposed Central legislation on Common Entrance Test in unaided private professional colleges in the State; and

if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The matter is under the consideration of the Central Government.

Textbook Regulatory Council

1230. SHRI V HANUMANTHA RAO:
DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an attempt to regulate education in Madarsas, missionary, RSS-run and private schools, his Ministry has decided to set up a Textbook Regulatory Council;