

Training of SC and ST students under skill development schemes

2887. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is keeping records of students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes being trained under various skill development schemes currently operated under the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the percentage/fraction of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students among the total students getting trained under those schemes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) As per the norms of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education, a Management Information System is to be developed at all levels *i.e.* National, State, District and School. Under the scheme, a Pilot Project under the National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) has been launched in 40 schools in Haryana. Of the 4904 students enrolled, 1481 students *i.e.* 30% of total students belong to the Scheduled Castes. Under the scheme of Community Development through Polytechnics, approximately 18.99% of the trainees are from the Scheduled Castes and 5.60% of the trainees are from the Scheduled Tribes. Under the Vocational Education Programme of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), in the year 2012-13, out of the 27,733 students admitted in various vocational courses, 3463 students belong to the Scheduled Castes and 2003 students belong to the Scheduled Tribes.

Improvement of elementary education in Government schools

2888. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main reasons for low/poor quality of elementary education in Government schools in the country;

(b) whether Central Government has prepared any comprehensive and integrated policy framework to improve this poor quality; and