

full waiver of all fees (including tuition and all other fees except meal & transportation) charged by them, to each girls student from class VI to XII who is a "Single Child" of her parents either with immediate effect or from the next academic session commencing from 1.04.2006. As regard the extension of this benefit to students of State Boards, it is for the concerned States to consider providing such benefit.

Requirement of secondary education

†2758. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI C. PERUMAL:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that more secondary schools would be needed during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the number of the schools to be opened and the funds required therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) The number of additional schools & funds required for this purpose, would depend, *inter-alia*; on success of programmes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and on demand for secondary education from the students.

Languages of North-Eastern Region

2759. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

(a) the steps taken to popularize the languages of the Eastern and the North Eastern Region;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government have assessed performance of the existing measures, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider including these languages and literature at primary and middle schools levels; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Government is committed for the development and promotion of all Indian languages including the languages of Eastern and North Eastern Region. Central institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, an office under the Ministry of Human Resource Development and Sahitya Akademi under Ministry of Culture, among others, are engaged in publishing books including dictionaries phonetic readers, grammars, conducting workshops, survey of dialects, audio and video recording of these languages. Sahitya Akademi has recognized Assamese, Bengali, Bodo languages and Manipuri languages in which full-fledged publication and programme activities are undertaken which include publication of books including translations, awards, seminars etc. Akademi has given Bhasha Samman to writers in Kokborok, Khasi, Mizo, Bodo etc. to encourage writings in these languages. A project office of Sahitya Akademi also exists at North Eastern Hill University Complex to concentrate mainly on the North Eastern Languages. Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, has undertaken the work for development and promotion of Eastern and North Eastern Languages after assessing the demands from these languages.

(c) and (d) The inclusion of a language in schools is mainly the responsibility of the State Governments who may take necessary steps to do so if such a need is felt by them.

Expert Committee for KVs and NVs

2760. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted an Expert Committee to suggest improvement in the management and working of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;