

Pension scheme in NVS

1612. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the retired teachers and officials of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) are leading a precarious life after retirement, as the provision for pension was not available to the employees who joined before 2004, prior to introduction of New Pensions Scheme;

(b) whether Government is planning to provide pensions to such retired teachers and officials;

(c) if so, by when such pension would be disbursed and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti had been given the benefit of Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) scheme since its inception. Subsequently, the Government had approved introduction of New Pension Scheme (NPS) for all regular employees of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) joining on or after 01.04.2009. However, those employees who joined NVS on regular basis before 01.04.2009 were given the option *vide* NVS's notification dated 04.08.2009 either to continue with the existing Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) scheme or to join the New Pension Scheme. This option was to be exercised latest by 03.11.2009. Thus, the Government has already provided post retirement benefits of either CPF Scheme or NPS to the employees of NVS including teaching and non-teaching staff.

Upgradation of Government schools in West Bengal

1613. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to undertake upgradation of Government schools in West Bengal with central funding; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, 10079 government primary schools have been sanctioned for