

(b) the urgency in implementing the decision from the mid-session of the current academic year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Kendriya Vidyalayas primarily cater to the educational needs of children of transferable Central Government employees and hence are expected to maintain a uniform curriculum/scheme of studies in all its schools. Students of classes VI to VIII study Sanskrit compulsorily as the third language in the Kendriya Vidyalayas. The introduction of German Language as a third language in Class VI to VIII in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) was violative of the provisions of the National Policy on Education/National Curriculum Framework relating to the Three Language Formula.

**Central assistance to Maharashtra for payment of
Sixth Pay Commission dues**

3189. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central assistance for payment to teachers and supporting cadre under the Sixth Pay Commission due to the Maharashtra Government; and

(b) by when this amount would be released to the State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Central Government had received a proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for reimbursement of ₹14,70,21,30,487 (80% of the amount of ₹ 18,37,76,63,109/-) as total central share as reimbursement of expenditure for payment of arrears on account of implementation of the revised UGC pay scales, for the period 1.1.2006 to 31.03.2010. However, as per the undertaking submitted by the State Government, an amount of ₹ 11,50,16,00,000/- had actually been disbursed by the State Government.

(b) Till date, an amount of ₹5,75,08,00,000/- has been released as central share to the Government of Maharashtra, in two instalments.

Practical training in education system

3190. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present education system has less emphasis on practical training and more on theoretical learning;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken to inculcate skills among students in schools and colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The National Focus Group's position paper on 'Teaching of Science' a component of National Curriculum Framework-2005 States that a major area of concern is the gradual decline of practical work and experimentation at secondary and senior secondary levels. Considering this concern, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) Framework, 2009 provides for an integrated science laboratory for the secondary schools. Further, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed activity based teaching learning materials, the textbooks, laboratory manuals, teachers handbook and science kits that promotes enquiry, critical and analytical thinking at the secondary stage. NCERT has also been building capacity of Key Resource Persons (KRPs) in science at the secondary stage in all the States/UTs.

(c) The Government has taken various initiatives to promote vocational education and training like the development of the National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) and later its assimilation in the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF). NSQF would be implemented in educational systems throughout schools, colleges, polytechnics and universities from 2013-14. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed guidelines for adoption of Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) for skill development for all undergraduate and postgraduate level degree, diploma and certificate programmes under the credit system awarded by Central, State and Deemed to be Universities.

At the school level, Central Board of Secondary Education is currently offering various skill based courses at secondary and senior secondary levels to impart knowledge and training that strengthens the core skills of the students from Class IX onwards. The Board has also identified some Skill Knowledge Providers for effectively offering the skill based courses in the schools. The Board is also working for the industry linkages specially meant for the schools and would prepare student database for appropriate internship training /employment.

Strengthening of NCTE

3191. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Task Force Committee had been constituted by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) for strengthening the organization;