

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

name of model schools to provide good quality modern education to the talented students predominantly from rural areas. There are around 600 Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning across the countries and these Vidyalayas are producing excellent results. Teaching and non-teaching staff take care of students round the clock, including on Sundays and holidays, as the employees have to retire without any social security of GPF-cum-pension whereas all other similar institutions like Kendriya Vidyalayas are enjoying these benefits. The Y.N. Chaturvedi Committee Report of 2001 and the 154th Report of the Parliamentary Committee, recommendations made by the Human Resource Development Ministry from time to time called for the introduction of CCS Pension Scheme, 1972 as was applicable to the Kendriya Vidyalayas and similar such autonomous bodies and organisations. The rationale for such recommendations was that the employees of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are serving for more than 12 to 16 hours a day in the residential system of education and are employed in remote and far flung areas where they don't have proper facilities of primary education for their children. The New Pension Scheme introduced in NVs in 2009 does not cover any social security measures like medical benefits, family pension and other benefits.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development may kindly look into the matter and do the needful.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Derek O'Brien – Not present. Shri Ahamed Hassan.

**Demand for taking urgent measures for protection of elephants
from death due to collision with trains in West Bengal**

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN (West Bengal): Deaths of elephants due to collision with trains on tracks passing through their traditional routes of migration have been a regular feature in recent years. This is true for the State of West Bengal too – in the northern part of the State. The accidents happen mostly during the night, when the elephants strike the rapidly moving trains. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has suggested measures to warn train drivers regarding presence of elephants in their area, some of which are being tested on a pilot basis. These include technology-based solutions like a low-cost wild animal detection system using wireless sensor networks and the 'e-eye' system based on infra-red cameras for tracking elephants and detecting poachers, as well as solutions like restricting speeds to 25 km/hour in all identified elephant habitats, diversion of goods and unscheduled trains, construction of steep slopes on railway embankments, provision of barricades and fencing in identified vulnerable stretches of railway track, sensitization of

railway staff, and construction of underpasses and ramps to facilitate smooth movement of elephants.

Elephant is an endangered species as per Indian laws, and so it forms the duty of the Government to commit all possible resources for its protection. Hence, I urge the Ministry to let us know in detail how much of its stated measures have been implemented and in which regions, and also a timeline of its future course of action regarding the protective measures. The Government must define targets and implement the measures immediately.

Demand to expedite approval for increase in number of MBBS seats in the Government Medical Colleges in Tamil Nadu

DR. R. LAKSHMANAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the health index of our country is to be improved. In order to achieve considerable improvement in health index, there is an urgent need to have sufficient number of doctors in the country. The current estimated doctor population ratio in India is 1: 2000 which is very low compared to the world average, which is 1: 1000. In order to achieve the healthy ratio, the current intake at MBBS level by medical colleges should be rationally enhanced.

Being aware of this, our visionary leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took initiatives to increase the intake of students for MBBS courses in Government Medical Colleges in Tamil Nadu. New Medical colleges were also opened in the districts of Villupuram, Thiruvannamalai, and other districts. Sanction for additional seats were given in the newly opened Government Medical Colleges as well as in the existing old Government Medical Colleges at Kilpauk and Stanely at Chennai and Medical Colleges at Chengalpattu, Salem, Tiruchirappalli and Thoothukudi. Thus, sanction for increased intake of students at MBBS level were given to 10 Government medical colleges in Tamil Nadu.

The new academic session 2015-2016 is fast approaching. But the Medical Council of India is yet to give approval for the sanction of seats granted by the State Government. Because of non-grant of approval by MCI, the admission of students is doubtful.

Hence, I urge the Government to take immediate steps to expedite approval of MBBS seats in Government Medical Colleges of Tamil Nadu by the Medical Council of India (MCI).

Demand to set up a National Fitness Training Institute in the country

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, my Special Mention is regarding the demand to set up a National Fitness Training Institute. Today, in the field of sports, only