Shortage of Yoga Teachers

1605. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy so far as yoga is concerned;

(b) whether Government proposes to make yoga compulsory in schools;

(c) if so, whether Government has sufficient yoga teachers to teach yoga in schools;

(d) if not, the estimate of shortage of yoga teachers; and

(e) how Government proposes to remove this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Government has already laid down the National policy on Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy-2002, which *inter-alia* envisages overall growth and development of Yoga. The Government of India has formulated the programmes and operational measures for promotion of Yoga through Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) and various Central Sector Schemes.

Further, a Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry to deliberate and make recommendations on various important issues concerning the Ministry of AYUSH, including the preferred option for promotion, development and regulation of Yoga & Naturopathy for education and practice.

(b) to (e) The Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has informed that the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005, which is a policy document for the country, recommended Yoga as an integral part of Health and Physical Education. Health and Physical Education is compulsory subject from Class 1 to Class X and optional from Classes XI to XII. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has further informed that there are 15,962 schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), who have already been advised to provide compulsory 40-45 minutes of physical activities or games to the students of classes I- X every day and that students of classes XI- XII should participate in physical activity/ games/ mass physical training/ yoga for at least 2 periods per week (90-120 minutes/ week). The Board offers Physical and Health Education for classes XI and XII and Yoga is compulsory part of its curriculum.

Yoga Education has been made compulsory part of study and practice by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), a statutory body under Ministry of Human Resource Development, for its 15 Teacher Education Programmes, including Pre-School Education to Elementary Education; Secondary; Senior Secondary; Physical Education; Distance Learning etc.

NCTE has already developed modules on Yoga Education for Diploma in Elementary Education and master of Education. These will be used by more than 18000 Teacher Education Institutions and above 14 Lakh student –teachers and teacher educators who are studying and /or teaching in these institutions.

Legislation for the regulation of Yoga and Naturopathy

1606. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Yoga and Naturopathy practitioners in the country, State-wise especially in West Bengal;

(b) whether Government has issued guidelines to State Governments to enact comprehensive policy/legislation for the regulation of Yoga and Naturopathy;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken or proposed by States/ Union Territories especially West Bengal; and

(d) the further measures being taken by Government to accelerate the process of registration and standardisation of Yoga and Naturopathy education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) A State/UT-wise list of Yoga & Naturopathy practitioners is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The Government of West Bengal has informed that there are many self educated practitioners in the State, but the figure is not available as they have not yet been registered.

(b) to (d) At present, there is no Central legislation for regulation of education and practice in Yoga and Naturopathy systems. However, this Ministry had asked State Governments in 2006 to enact comprehensive legislation for the regulation of Naturopathy covering registration of practioners, medical education, etc. Further, it was recommended that in the meantime a system be set up for the registration of practitioners and the accreditation of institutes on the basis of guidelines formulated and issued by the