

period, the number of supplementary nutrition beneficiaries including pregnant and lactating mothers has also increased from 2.27 crore to 4.15 crore. As against the expenditure of Rs. 4556.52 crore incurred on the scheme in the Ninth Plan, the Tenth Plan allocation for the scheme is Rs. 10391.75 crore which is more than double the expenditure incurred during the Ninth Plan. This is also an important subject under CMP of the Government which states that the U.P.A. will universalize the ICDS scheme to provide a functional Anganwadi in every settlement and ensure coverage for all children.

(b) The ICDS scheme has been able to cover 3.41 crore children in the 0-6 years age group as on 31.3.2004 which is around 22% of the total children in that age group. Of the 3.41 crore children receiving supplementary nutrition, 53% are reported to be undernourished.

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court has *vide* its order dated 28.11.2001 (not 28.11.2003) directed the States/Union Territories to provide supplementary nutrition to all eligible beneficiaries as per nutritional norms of the scheme and have disbursement centre in every settlement. As per the scheme, providing supplementary nutrition and programme implementation is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government has requested the States from time to time, to ensure compliance of the Supreme Court's order and effectively implement the programme.

Tuition fee in IIT and MM

*14. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Panel, constituted to suggest tuition fee in IIT and MM, has suggested a maximum fee of Rupees six thousand per annum and advised Government to reduce the fee accordingly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Panel and if so, the steps taken to reduce the fee for these courses; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

[5 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) The Government has not constituted any Panel to suggest Tuition fee in the IITs and IIMs. However, the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, in November, 2002 has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. U.R. Rao, Ex-Chairman, ISRO, to review the functioning of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), to redefine the role of the AICTE in view of the emerging changes etc. The Committee in its report, *inter-alia*, observed that in order to encourage technical education and make it affordable, fees should be pegged to 30% of India's per capita income, or Rs. 6000/- per year. The observation of the Review Committee was in respect of technical education as a whole and not specifically regarding IIT and IIMs. The recommendation on tuition fee was not included in the Terms of Reference of the Review Committee.

Legislation for SEZs

*15. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether ;it is a fact that to create a stable investment climate to attract huge investments, Government propose to enact a legislation for the Special Economic Zones;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the legislation proposes to give income-tax benefits on reinvestment of profits for ten years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government intends to enact a legislation for the Special Economic Zones covering all aspects of their establishment, operation and fiscal regime. No conclusive decision has been taken on the contents.