

sanctioned to States and UTs since inception of the scheme in 2000-01 till September, 2015. Out of this, construction of 4,82,746 girls toilets in elementary schools have been reported by the States and UTs. Under RMSA, 33,334 girls toilets have been approved and constructed in secondary schools.

(c) and (d) Rajasthan has reported problem of availability of water for toilets in some Government schools situated in western Rajasthan due to non-availability of permanent water source within school premises. In such schools alternative arrangements have been made by putting small tanks or buckets in toilets for ensuring water availability.

SSA also assists States and UTs for providing drinking water facilities in elementary schools. This Ministry has sanctioned 2,38,973 drinking water facilities to States and UTs including 23,283 drinking water facilities to the State of Rajasthan. Apart from this, SSA supports convergence with schemes *viz.* National Rural Drinking Water Programme and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and other relevant schemes of Central and State Governments, for ensuring availability of drinking water in schools.

Yoga and sports as subject in schools

1350. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to introduce/has already introduced yoga as a compulsory subject;

(b) whether any representations are received from various quarter against this move, if so, the reaction of Government;

(c) whether Government also plans to introduce sports as a graded subject in schools under the New Education Policy (NEP); and

(d) what steps have been taken in this regard and by when is it proposed to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per the National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005, Yoga is an integral part of Health and Physical Education at all levels of school education. For schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), which has adopted National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) curriculum and syllabi, Health and Physical Education is compulsory for Classes I to X and optional at classes XI and XII.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated a multilevel consultative process, involving all stakeholders, such as, educationists, teachers and students across all level, for formulating a New Education Policy to meet the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge. One of the themes identified for the New Education Policy, is "Comprehensive Education – Ethics, Physical Education, Arts and Crafts, Life Skills" which mentions that "Our students need to have a holistic development which cannot be achieved only through information and instructions and knowledge needs sensitization to values, ethics, appreciating arts, physical education, sports and like skills". The views and suggestions received on various themes identified for the New Education Policy have been forwarded to the Committee constituted for Evolution of the New Education Policy.

Mid-Day-Meal Scheme in Jharkhand

1351. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by the Centre towards the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme for Jharkhand in the last three financial years;

(b) whether the Ministry received complaints regarding financial irregularities and poor quality of food served to children in Mid-Day-Meal Scheme in Jharkhand, if so, particulars of action taken against the delinquent officer (s); and

(c) what system is in place in the Ministry to ascertain that the large amount of grants released for the scheme are being utilized for the intended purposes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The amounts released by the Centre towards the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme to Jharkhand in the last three financial years are as under:-

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Financial Year	Grant released
1.	2012-13	25035.45
2.	2013-14	35017.20
3.	2014-15	21508.92
	TOTAL	81561.57