

**Admission of poor students from rural areas in metro cities**

1223. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any appropriate steps to ensure admissions for poor yet deserving students in Government as well as private colleges and schools across the country particularly in the metro cities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the various steps taken by Government to ensure adequate representation and admission for the students from rural areas with poor economic backgrounds;

(c) whether Government has any expert advisory committee to look after this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) To ensure better efficiency and promote transparency in admission process, the Central Universities funded by the UGC have been directed to put in place an “Online Admission System”. The Government has also undertaken various student Financial assistance Schemes such as Comprehensive Educational Loan Scheme, Tuition fee Waiver Scheme, Scholarships Schemes to ensure that no deserving student in the country is deprived of higher education for want of finances. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified UGC (Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012 wherein it has been made mandatory for all the Universities to appoint an Ombudsman for redressal of grievances relating to unfair practices in admission etc. Various Common Admission Tests such as Joint Entrance Exam (JEE), etc. are conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to ensure merit based admission. Reservation in admission of the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes (non-creamy layer) of citizens to certain Central Educational Institutions is mandated by the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.

The Right to Education Act, 2009 mandates that all private un-aided schools shall admit children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighbourhood in Class I (or pre-school as the case may be) to the extent of at least 25 per cent of the strength of that class and provide free and compulsory elementary education to them till its completion. The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education has set up a Committee to draft legislation to prevent and prohibit adoption of unfair practices in school education sector.

(c) and (d) Section 31 and 32 of the RTE Act provides for monitoring by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) and redressal of grievances by the local authorities relating to rights of a child under the RTE Act.

**Additional funds for Maharashtra under mid-day-meal scheme**

†1224. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering an additional allocation of ₹ 22.84 crore under the mid-day-meal scheme to Maharashtra for making payment towards cost of foodgrains to the Food Corporation of India, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) The proposal of the State Government of Maharashtra for release of committed liabilities of ₹ 26.93 crore for previous years for making payment towards cost of foodgrains to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been received. State Government has been reminded on 25.07.2016 to furnish certain clarifications.

**Proposal for new Central and Navodaya schools in Kerala**

1225. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether any request from the State Government of Kerala has been received to open new Central schools and Navodaya schools in the State, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): Proposals have been received from the State Government of Kerala for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas at Nedumangad (Thiruvananthapuram Distt.); Munnar/Devikulam (Idukki Distt.); Thrikkakara (Ernakulam Distt.); Kottarakkara (Kollam Distt.); Ulliyeri (Kozhikode Distt.); Nileshwar (Kasargod Distt.) and Konni (Pathanamthitta Distt.).

The Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme provides for opening of one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in each district of the country. In the State of Kerala, JNVs have been sanctioned in all the 14 districts and are presently functioning from their permanent buildings.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.