

- (ii) In general, teachers/staff members of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan will not be transferred by organization except on administrative grounds.
- (iii) Teachers will be transferred only on their own request, against the vacancies of their own choice.
- (iv) The concept of surplus teachers has been changed from the existing criteria of declaring the teachers with longest stay as surplus to the teachers with least number of years' served in a particular Vidyalaya.
- (v) In order to ensure that there is minimum disruption of teachers from Kendriya Vidyalayas, it has been decided that even in case promotion of teachers, the teachers can continue to work in the same Vidyalaya provided there is a vacancy. In case there is no vacancy, he/she can exercise his/her request for the nearest available vacancy.
- (vi) Even in the case of Vice Principals and Principals, while they would not be allowed to continue in the same Vidyalaya when promoted from junior post, they can be posted within the same region and subject to availability of vacancy in the nearest Vidyalaya as well.
- (vii) Extra weightage has been given in the cases of teachers whose spouse is working in Central Government/Central PSU and they will not be transferred unless their spouse is also transferred out.

Environment as compulsory subject

653. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had directed all the States and educational agencies to introduce environment as a compulsory subject in schools upto the higher secondary level from the academic year 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court *vide* their order dated the 18th December, 2003 had directed the NCERT to formulate syllabus including the one—'Environmental Studies' from Class I to XII. On 22.4.2004 the Court accepted the syllabus filed by the NCERT and directed all the State Governments to respond to the response submitted by NCERT. On 13.7.2004, the Supreme Court has directed that the syllabus prepared by NCERT for Class I to XII shall be adopted by every State in their respective schools. Further, the Court has appointed NCERT as a nodal agency to supervise the implementation of the Court's order.

Scheme for Anganwadi workers

†654. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Anganwadi workers in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Anganwadi workers are being paid wages less than even labourers;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government have formulated any scheme for welfare of the Anganwadi workers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) State-wise number of Anganwadi Workers in the country, as on 31.3.2004, is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Under the ICDS Scheme, the Anganwadi Workers are honorary workers from the local community who are paid fixed honorarium. The honorarium being paid to them was almost double with effect from 1.4.2002. At present, the Anganwadi Workers are paid honorarium ranging from Rs. 938/- to Rs. 1063/- per month, depending upon their qualification and experience.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.