

**Scrapping of school development fee in Navodaya Vidyalayas**

2516. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to scrap the school development fee being introduced recently in Navodaya Vidyalayas of the country in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the proposal to open new Navodaya Vidyalayas especially in Rajasthan and Maharashtra, in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration. The students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) are being provided good quality modern education free of cost along with free boarding and lodging since its inception. Only a nominal fee of ₹ 200 per month per student of classes 9 to 12 was introduced in the form of Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi (VVN) with effect from July, 2003. All girl students, students belonging to the SC/ST communities and boys belonging to the BPL families were exempt from paying this fee. Thus, the VVN is collected only from a very small percentage of students. VVN fund is being utilised for following activities in JNVs:

1. For expansion of Computer Education Programme and Information Technology.
2. For conducting Yoga Camps, Adventure Activities, Promotion of Sports etc.
3. For development of Hobby Centres and Junior Science Labs as part of Science Promotion activities.
4. For organising local excursion trips and cultural activities.
5. For promotion of NCC and Scouts and Guides activities.
6. For Safety, Security and Health care of the children.
7. Quality improvement programmes in academics/Pace Setting Activities.

With a view to providing better facilities to the students of the JNVs as well as for strengthening the security services, hygiene, sanitation and cleaning services etc.,

the VVN was enhanced by NVS to ₹ 600 per month per student w.e.f. April, 2018. Students belonging to SC/ST communities, girl students and boys belonging to BPL families continue to be exempted from paying this fee. From those students whose parents are government employees, VVN is being charged at the rate of ₹ 1500 per month w.e.f. April, 2018.

(d) The Navodaya Vidyalaya scheme provides for opening of one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in each district of the country. Sanctioning of JNVs depends on the willingness of the concerned State Government/UT Administration to make available requisite suitable land free of cost and making available required temporary building, free of rent to run the Vidyalaya till the permanent building is constructed. However, actual sanction and opening of new JNV depends on availability of funds and approval by the competent authority. Opening of new JNVs is a continuous process and one JNV each has already been sanctioned in all the districts of the country (as on 31st May, 2014), excluding Tamil Nadu which has not yet accepted the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

#### **Notional increment to pensioners**

2517. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Court of Madras in its judgement dated 15th September, 2017 had passed an order that one notional increment should be given to pensioners who retires on 30th of June of any year of service as they had completed one full year of service for the purpose of pensionary benefits and not for any other purposes, which was subsequently upheld by the Supreme Court in SLP dated 23rd July, 2018 and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when Government would implement the said judgement and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. High Court of Madras in its judgment dated 15th September, 2017 in Writ Petition No. 15732/2017 has granted relief personal to the petitioner. The SLP which is filed by Government against this order has been dismissed by Supreme Court of India.

Since the judgment is in *personam* and is contrary to the personnel policy of Government of India, the question of implementing the decision in rem does not arise.