

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Educational schemes in Bihar**

*361. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of educational schemes are being implemented in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a number of schemes have been implemented through Non-Governmental Organizations; and

(d) if so, whether Government are checking that funds are not misutilized by these NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Educational Schemes are run both by the Central Government and by the State Government of Bihar. Most Central schemes are in the nature of Centrally Sponsored Schemes run by the Ministry of Human Resource Development for all the States/UTs. From among the many Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Bihar has availed assistance during 2006-07 under the following schemes:

- (i) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)
- (ii) Mahila Samakhya
- (iii) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV)
- (iv) Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)
- (v) Scheme of Literacy Campaign and Operation Restoration
- (vi) Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)
- (vii) Support to NGOs for Adult Education
- (viii) Access with Equity
- (ix) Development of Sanskrit

There are also other Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Area Intensive and Madarsa Modernisation Programme (AIMMP), Appointment of Language Teachers, Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) and ICT in schools which are available to all States/UTs including Bihar.

In addition, there are other schemes including those of the University Grants Commission (UGC) which has given assistance under its various schemes to Universities and Colleges in Bihar and schemes for Technical Education which include support to Polytechnics, Community Polytechnics and Polytechnics for Persons with Disabilities. The National Council for the Promotion of the Urdu Language (NCPUL) has supported Multi-Lingual Computer Centres. The Rashtriya

Sanskrit Sansthan has given financial assistance to NGOs which run traditional Sanskrit Pathshalas and to institutions recognized as Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All the schemes being run through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), have an inbuilt mechanism for post-sanction monitoring and review. Where misuse of funds by such organizations is substantiated, action is taken under the relevant provisions of the Revenue Recovery Act/Criminal Procedure Code, in consultation with the State Government. There are also provisions for blacklisting NGOs, which are then, no more Entitled for Government Grants. The Government, from time to time, also reviews and modifies the existing schemes with a view to plug the loopholes in the schemes, if any.

Perpetuation of reservation

*362. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has opined that “Quota can’t remain forever and must come to an end one day as if it is perpetual, the entire objective is defeated”;

(b) if so, the present policy of Government with regard to reservation in educational institutions; and

(c) the reaction of Government to the Supreme Court’s observation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Since the constitutional validity of the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act, 2005 and the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006, is *sub-judice* before a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court of India, it would not be proper for the Central Government to comment on any opinion or observation in the matter. The Central Government is committed to promote the educational advancement of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the other Socially and Educationally Backward Classes of citizens under Article 15(5) of the Constitution.

Scheme for development of agriculture sector

†*363. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry and the Ministry of Earth Sciences have formulated an ambitious scheme for strengthening and encouraging agriculture sector in the country;

(b) whether the Ministry has made efforts for achieving four per cent growth rate in agriculture sector; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.