

(b) if so, the details of the programme evolved and being implemented in order to improve the quality of education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Plan of action for children

1405. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI N.R. DASARI:

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

(a) whether a voluntary organisation, centre of concern for child labour, has demanded Government for a special mention of children living in rural areas of the country in the proposed "Plan of Action for Children"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Center of Concern for Child Labour, New Delhi have offered comments and suggestions on the draft National Plan of Action for Children, prepared by the Department of Women and Child Development, during the process of consultation. The organization has suggested to "give more thrust on dealing with child labour in rural areas".

[1 August, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

The suggestions of all voluntary organizations have been considered during the consultative process jointly with the line Ministry.

Mid-day meal scheme

1406. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in which the mid-day meal scheme is being implemented for school students;

(b) the names of such States and the number of students covered under such mid-day meal schemes, for the years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, State-wise;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the concerned States on the implementation of mid-day meal schemes, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the assistance given by Government to these States for this scheme State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) to (d) The National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE) popularly called Mid-day Meal Scheme is being implemented in all States/UTs except Lakshadweep which runs its own programme.

As per the scheme, the Central Government provides, foodgrains, free of cost and admissible transportation charges on the basis of which implementing agencies in States are required to arrange cooked meals for the children. The State-wise details of number of students, foodgrains allocated during the years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003 is annexed as Statement.