

[13 August, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

up a Campus in Sri Lanka to train and offer technical assistance for establishment of an institute at par with IITs in that country;

(b) Whether Government have contributed for this project;

(c) if so, the amount given for this project; and

(d) the other details in this regard?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Failure of CSWB

2153. SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether it has been reported that 50 years after it was decided to help poor women and children, the programme run by the Central Social Welfare Board have failed to make a mark;

(b) if so, whether this was also revealed in the latest report of the CAG of India;

(c) whether the report states that Social Welfare Boards have also proved to be ineffective and should wind up;

(d) if so, what are the other objections raised by the CAG; and

(e) whether the Centre has taken up this seriously and taking necessary steps in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Draft Report of the CAG stated only that "As the desired momentum for a socio-economic upheaval could not be created by CSWB since its existence, it has lost its relevance for a social change". The CAG in its final report had dropped this para.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The other objections raised by the CAG are: erratic funding led to large un-utilised grants; Non submission of utilisation certificates of grants; Scaling down of Socio-Economic Programmes from 1996-2002; Records of trained personnel under Vocational Training Scheme not maintained by State Boards; Grants received from Swawlamban for setting up "Employment and Income generating training cum production centres for women" were utilised for supporting training activities only; Most of the grants or Welfare Extension Projects (CD) used only for paying staff salaries; No training course conducted for creche workers as no funds received from the Ministry under this head; and no effort made to evaluate various programmes.

(e) These observations were made in the draft reports. Many of these comments were dropped later. A Committee headed by Shri T.N. Chaturvedi, former Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) was constituted to review functioning of the CSWB. The report of the Committee stated that CSWB, through its network of State Social Advisory Boards and voluntary organizations is filling the gaps where government sector does not have an outreach. The board has always geared its efforts to the needs of the societies; especially the women and children and its uniqueness lies in the fact that it is even today the only major national level organization with network in every state, funding voluntary organizations under various schemes.

Social Watch Report

2154. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have perused the observation in the first 'Social Watch Report' compiled by the National Centre for Advocacy Studies (NCAS), Delhi, that plan per capita allocation on education has declined from 30 paise in 2002-2003 to a meagre 18 paise for 2003-2004;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to this observation;

(c) the rationale behind such massive reduction in public investment in such a pivotal social area; and