

Opening of new Passport Offices is based on a number of factors such as the number of passport applications received from an area, accessibility of a location, availability of manpower, constraints necessitating financial approvals for creation of posts.

Based on these criteria, there is a constant review of opening new Passport Offices.

#### STATEMENT

Year	Number of applications received for fresh passports		
	Karnataka	Kerala	
1993	111035	Cochin	137771
		Kozhikode	206917
		Trivandrum	124600
		Total	469288
1994	82083	Cochin	94933
		Kozhikode	162795
		Trivandrum	95691
		Total	353419
1995	97741	Cochin	105955
		Kozhikode	133067
		Trivandrum	90432
		Total	329454

#### Admission in Schools

4722. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact a law to the effect that children below four years would not be provided admission in schools; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) There is no proposal to enact a law to the effect that children below four years would not be provided admission in schools, under consideration of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Under Utilisation of Funds

4723. SHRI RAMSAGAR:  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:  
SHRI I.D. SWAMI:  
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:  
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Mid-day-meal, literacy schemes' funds underutilised" which appeared in 'The Times of India' dated August 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and utilised under the said schemes during 1995-96, State-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Mid-day Meal Scheme, the funds released to the Food Corporation of India which supplies foodgrains to the States, were Rs. 441.38 crores in 1995-96, against an initial budget provision of Rs. 611.79 crores.

As regards literacy schemes, the total expenditure in 1995-96 was Rs. 142.64 crore against a budget provision of Rs. 234.00 crore.

(c) Under the Mid-day Meal Scheme, the States are allocated foodgrains to be supplied by the Food Corporation of India. The Statewise allocation and lifting of foodgrains in 1995-96 is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Under the Literacy schemes, the funds are allocated scheme-wise. The scheme-wise allocation and utilisation of the funds in 1995-96 is provided in the attached Statement-II.

(d) The schemes are being regularly monitored and reviewed at District, State and Central levels, so that remedial measures are initiated.