

[*Translation*]

**Free education to Children in Navyug Schools**

2764. SHRI GANGA RAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether free education is provided to these children studying in Navyug Schools run by New Delhi Municipal Committee whose parents' annual income is less than Rs. 15 thousand and whether this limit was fixed a few years back;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase this limit on annual income of the parents to Rs. 20 thousand from the next academic session so as to provide relief to low income Group people; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) It has been reported by New Delhi Municipal Committee that no tuition fee is charged from the students of Navyug Schools irrespective of their parents' income. As per limit fixed for Junior Navyug Schools/Senior Navyug Schools in 1982/83, students whose parents' income exceeds Rs. 15,000 per annum have to pay for the other facilities, like books, stationery, uniform, refreshment, etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

[*English*]

**Conference of Education Ministers**

2765. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two day conference of Education Ministers was recently held in the country to Endorse the concept of a national system of education

which would include universal access to education for children and adults, improvement of standards, vocationalisation and promotion of national integration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether it is a fact that the Education Ministers of West Bengal and Tripura did not approve it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) to (d) A two-day Conference of State Education Ministers was held on 29-30 August, 1985 to initiate consultations with State Governments on the document : "Challenge of Education—A Policy Perspective" brought out by the Ministry of Education as a part of the nation-wide debate preceding formulation of the new education policy.

2. The Conference endorsed the importance of moving towards a national system of education which would include universal access to education for children and adults, improvement of standards, vocationalisation, and promotion of national integration through educational programmes. With the exception of the Education Ministers of the Government of West Bengal and Tripura, the idea of evolving and introducing a common core-curriculum within an overall framework characterised by a great degree of flexibility in respect of content and innovative correlation with the environment in relation to the teaching learning process, was welcomed by all the Ministers. They felt that this would be an important means for establishing certain national learning norms, augmenting mobility and instilling nationally shared perceptions and values forming part of the national system of education.

3. The Education Ministers of West Bengal and Tripura, however, were of the opinion that in a nation of many languages, cultures and regional disparities, the States are in a better position to develop