

(c) the conclusions arrived at in the conference?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The conference of State Education Minister on 10th August, 1996 discussed at length, inter alia, the status of Universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE) and literacy campaigns. Compulsory Primary Education as a fundamental right, increased investments in education. The conference resolved to set up a Committee of State Education Ministers under the chairmanship of Union Minister of State (Education) to identify resources for achievement of UEE and total literacy. It recognised the significance of constitutional amendments to make free and compulsory primary education as a fundamental right and urged the Government to consider legal, administrative and financial implications of this proposal.

Centre for Educational Technology

2938. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has demanded the setting up of a Centre for Educational Technology in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal has recently been received from Government of Kerala for setting up of a State Institute of Educational Technology in that State. At present due to financial constraints no new SIETs are proposed to be set up. The proposal of the State Government can, however, be considered during the 9th Plan, subject to availability of resources.

Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial at Tashkent

2939. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hall is not functioning properly at Tashkent;

(b) whether indirect restrictions have been imposed to visit the surroundings of the memorials;

(c) if so, whether the scope of functioning of the memorial is getting closed;

(d) whether the Government have taken up/propose to take up the matter with Uzbek Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e). In January, 1996 the Uzbek Government conveyed to us that they wished to relocate the Shastri Memorial in order to provide it a better public view and to enhance its accessibility. The Government of India took up this matter with the Government of Uzbekistan immediately thereafter and explained that former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bhadr Shastri was a highly revered figure in India's modern history and the memory of his stay in Tashkent evoked deep sentiments, among the Indian people. The Uzbek Government was urged that no unilateral steps should be taken to shift the Shastri Memorial. The Uzbek Government has assured us that no decision would be taken by them on this matter without consulting the Government of India.

During the visit of the former Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee to Tashkent in March, 1996, it was agreed that official-level discussion would be held between the two sides for this purpose.

Admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas on Fake Requests

2940. SHRI SHANTILAL PRASOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether admissions in some Kendriya Vidyalayas have been made on the fake requests by MPs on the ground that these children happened to be their grandchildren;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). Six cases of allegedly forged signatures of members of Parliament have been reported which are under investigation by the Sangathan.

Exchange of Enclaves with Bangladesh

2941. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chief Minister of West Bengal has sent any proposal to the Union Government for the immediate exchange of enclaves between India and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government this regard;

(c) whether there are about 130 Indian enclaves, within the Bangladesh territory and over 90 Bangladeshi enclaves in the Indian side;

(d) whether Bangladesh Government has been consulted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal had written to the previous Prime Minister Shri P.V. Nārasimha Rao by letter dated 7 February 1996 on the implementation of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 and exchange of enclaves with Bangladesh. As per information available, There are 119 exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and 72 exchangeable Bangladesh enclaves in India. The exchanges of enclaves in directly linked to and will necessarily follow the demarcation of boundary with Bangladesh. The demarcation of about 41 kilometers of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary is yet to be completed. The Government propose to complete the task of demarcation of the boundary with Bangladesh with the cooperation of the concerned State Government.

Welfare of Prostitutes

2942. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Smt. Mohini Giri, President of National Women Commission has made some suggestions to the Union Government regarding the welfare of prostitutes;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions/recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Child Welfare Schemes

2943. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Adoption Resource Agency has issued revised guidelines on child welfare schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to direct State Government to follow the guidelines; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to implement the guidelines in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Central Adoption Resource Agency has not issued revised guidelines on child welfare schemes. However, the Ministry of Welfare have issued revised guidelines to regulate matters relating to adoption of Indian children

during the year 1995 and published in the official gazette of India (Extraordinary) No. 109, dated 20.6.95.

(b) The objective of the revised guidelines is to provide a sound basis for adoption within the framework of the norms and principles laid down by the Supreme Court of India in its series of judgements delivered in *Kaxmikant Pandey Vs. Union of India and others* (CRL No. 1171 of 1982) between 1984 and 1991. The revised guidelines contain in details the role of the Govt. of India, State Governments/UTs, voluntary organisations etc., Procedure for inter-country adoption and for monitoring the progress for adoptive children are also given with a view to control and regulate the adoption of abandoned/destitute children.

(c) A copy of the guidelines have been sent to all State Governments for implementation.

(d) The guidelines have been notified on 20th June, 1995 and a copy of the same already issued to all State Govts./UTs, recognised agencies, VCAs and Scrutinising Agencies. State Govts. have been advised to implement the guidelines.

Juvenile Sex Abuse

2944. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two day seminar on Juvenile Sex Abuse was held under the aegis of the UNICEF in Panjim (Goa) in May-June, 1996;

(b) if so, the main revelations made there about the extent of sexual abuse (percentage) of children who fall a victim to such abuse within the families and in remand homes and children homes etc. and in custody, in India and other developing countries; and

(c) the effective steps contemplated to prevent such sexual abuse of children?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The seminar concluded that an exact estimate of the extent of sexual abuse of children would not be possible in view of the nature of the offence and recommended that efforts should be made to tackle the problem through the joint efforts of State, civil society, elected representatives of the rural and urban local self Governments and children themselves, universalisation of primary education and awareness generation.

[Translation]

Child Prostitution

2945. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact