

Committee of Secretary on PDS

2430. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee of Secretaries set up for suggesting changes in the existing Public distribution System (PDS) has since submitted its report to the government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations and implications thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which these recommendations are likely to be made available to the Government and the final decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) No such Committee of Secretaries has been set up specifically for this purpose.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Festival of India

2431. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Festivals of India were organised in foreign countries during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such festivals are proposed to be held during 1996; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the Festival of India in Thailand is being inaugurated on 13th of December, 1995 by the Human Resource Development Minister, in Bangkok.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to mount the Festival of India in Italy during 1996. The details are being worked out in consultation with Italian authorities.

Alleged Irregularity in National Open School

2432. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware about the serious financial irregularities being committed in the National Open School;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI) : (a) to (d) The Government is aware of some complaints regarding alleged financial irregularities in the functioning of National Open School (NOS.) In this connection it has come to the notice of the Government that CBI has collected some files from NOS, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education), in connection with a preliminary enquiry. The CBI has not yet submitted its final report on the enquiry/investigation started by it.

[Translation]

Renaming of Places and Universities in U.P.

2433. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether some universities and places have been renamed recently in U.P.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) Whether the Government intend to bring improvement in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) In September, 1995 Governor of U.P. promulgated 'the Uttar Pradesh State Universities (Third Amendment Ordinance, 1995' to change the name of 'The University of Agra' to 'Doctor Bhim Rao Ambedkar University, Agra' and rename 'the University of Kanpur' as 'Shri Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur' to perpetuate the memory of Dr. Ambedkar and Shri Shahu Ji Maharaj respectively.

According to the provisions of Article 213 (2) (a) of the Constitution of India, every such Ordinance shall be laid before the Legislative Assembly of the State in the period specified therein.

Landsliding

2434. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently any Landsliding has taken place in Kullu town in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the loss of life and property as a result thereof; and