

(b) to (d). The provision in the aforesaid regulation of the Medical Council is justified in view of the fact that the medium of instruction in the medical courses continues to be English. In respect of candidates belonging to SC/ST the minimum marks required for admission are 40% in lieu of 50% for general candidates.

Exchange of Coaches between India and U.S.A.

8733. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements for exchange of sports coaches between India and U.S.A. have been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). There is a possibility that some coaches from U.S.A. may come to India in the future under the Indo-US Joint Commission. The matter, however, is at an exploratory stage only.

Programme to acquaint teachers with New Education Policy

8734. SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched a crash programme for the teachers to acquaint them with the New Education Policy and propose to set up District Institutes of Education;

(b) if so, the details of achievements and targets for the current year in respect of Assam; and

(c) the details of the other schemes in this regard and number of officers trained

in the Inservice course for Block Education Officers and proposed for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The National Policy on Education, 1986 recognises that teacher education is a continuing process, and the present system needs to be overhauled. As a first step in that direction, action on Mass orientation of teachers in the National Policy on Education was initiated last year by imparting training to 5,00,000 teachers through NCERT. It is also proposed to establish District Institutes of Education and Training both for pre-service and inservice courses of elementary school teachers and for continued education of the personnel working in non-formal and adult education programmes. The scheme is yet to be finalised.

(b) The number of teachers in Assam who attended the Mass Orientation of teachers programme in 1986 was about 12,000 Primary teachers and about 4,000 secondary school teachers. It is proposed to organise similar programme on the same scale in 1987 also and every year till 1990.

(c) This Ministry has not organised any inservice course for Block Development Officers and there is no such proposal.

Non-Formal Education for Students in Assam

8735. SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the action so far taken/proposed to be taken in respect of backward population/tribal population in Assam in general to provide non-formal education for the drop-outs, working children and girls who cannot attend the whole day schools to