229 Written Answers PHALGUNA 20, 1903 (SAKA) Written Answers 230

## Statement

Definitions of the categories of the handicapped for purposes of reservation in employment.

## THE BLIND

The blind are those who suffer from either of the following condi-tions:-
(a) Total absence of sight.
(b) Visual acuity not exceeding $6 / 60$ or $20 / 200$ (Snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses;
(c) Limitation of the field of vision subtending an angle of 20 degrees or worse.

## THE DEAF

The deaf are those in whom the sense of hearing is non-functional for ordinary purposes of life. They do not hear, understand sounds at all events with amplified speech. The cases included in this category will be those having hearing loss more than 90 decibles in the better ear (profound impairment) or total loss of hearing in both ears.

## ORTHOPAEDICALLY HANDI-

 CAPPEDThe orthopaedically handicapped are those who have a physical defect or deformity which causes an interference with the normal functioning of the bones and joints.

Drop-outs at elementary, Higher Secondary and Graduate level

2939. SHRI ATAL BIFARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI SURAJ BHAN:
SHRI RAM PRASAD
AHIRWAR:
SHRI HARINATHA MISRA:
Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:
(a) what are the rates of dropouts at elementary, Higher Secondary and Graduate levels of education in each of the last three years, state-wise;
(b) the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard; and
(c) how do the rates of dropouts, between boys and girts, compare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) A Statement I is attached.
(b) The drop-out rates are highest at the elementary stage; the main reasons are socio-economic. No study has been made for ascertaining specifc reasons for drop-outs at stages higher than elementary. A Statement-II giving the measures for reducing dropout rates at the elementary stage is attached.
(c) A Statement-III is attäched.

## Statement I

## Drop-outs at Elementary, Higher Secondary and Gradtuate Leoel

Statement giving the drop-out rates in Classes I-VIII and Classes I-X

| State/Union Territory | Drop out rates at Elementary stage (Classes I-VIII) |  |  | Drop-out rates at Secondery stage (Classes I-X) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1976-77 | 1977-78 | 1978-79 | 1976-77 | 1977-78 | 1978-79 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 85.9 | 84.4 | 80.5 | 89. | 88.0 | 87.9 |
| 2. Amama | 83.5 | 79.3 | 80.2 | 87.1 | 86.2 | 87.3 |


| 1 |  |  | 2 | 3 |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


Note: Pigures in the parenthesis indicate the drop-out percentages.

## Statement I

## Drop-onts at Elementary, Higher Secondary and Graduate Level

In the context of the programme of universalisation of elementary education comprehensive steps have been taken and various measures suggested to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, in particular to reduce the drop-out rates. These are:
(i) The entire 'elementary elucation' has been included under the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and 'elementary education' has been accorded a high priority in Education under the Plan.
(ii) Opening of primary and middle schools within easy walking distance covering the needs of all habitations.
(iii) Intensifying the utilisation of existing schooling facilities.
(iv) Conversion of single-teacher schools into two-teacher schools.
(v) Improvement of physical facilities of primary and middle schools.
(vi) Providing non-formal parttime education on an extensive scale.
(vii) Appointment of womanteachers on a larger scale and provision of creches/pre-schools as ad-juncts to primary and middle schools.
(viii) Improvement of teacher competence through application of better standards of educational qualification and inservice training.
(ix) Special attention to girls and to target groups like scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, landless labourers and slum-dwellers.
(x) Adequate provision of incentives like free textbooks and station ery, free uniforms particularly for girls, attendance scholarships particularly for girls and mid-day-meals.
(xi) Improvement of quality of education through decentralisation of curricula making them relevant to
the needs, life-situations and environments of children in diverse social, economic, cultural and geographical conditions.
(xii) Introduction of ungraded school system and elimination of stagnation so that every child shall complete one class each year and will be promoted to the next higher class till he completes class VIII, but with adequate safeguards by way of periodical assessment and evaluation on a continuing basis.
(xiii) Provision of multiple-point entry into any class in the elementary stage.
(xiv) Concentrated efforts in the nine educationally backward States, augmented by special Central asistance for non-formal programme in these States, and also in backward areas/pockets in each State.
(xv) Monitoring of attendance in primary and middle schools.
(xvi) Strengthening of the stipervisory machinery and decentralisation of administration of Elementary Education down to the block-level.
(xvii) Parental education to overcome their apathy towards the education of children especially girls and setting up of school committees in all schools particularly in the rural and backward areas.
(xviii) Greater use of mass media for elementary education including teacher training.
(xix) Constitution of the National Committee on Elementary Education to guide the implementation of the programme of Universalisation in nine educationally backward States and setting up of State Task Forces for Elementary Education, in these States.
(xx) Central paper assistance to all States/Union Territories for the production of teaching and learning materials for non-fqrmal education programme for elementary age-group. children.

Drop-outs at the Elementary, Higher Secondary and Graduate level.
Drop-Out Rates at Elomentary Stages (Classes I-VIIT)


Dropout Rates at Secondary Stage (Classes I-X)


