

formulating a legal framework for establishing a Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), an apex level Central body, for laying down standards and norms on energy consumption for equipments and appliances compulsory energy labeling of equipments and appliances, and making energy audit mandatory for designated consumers to promote the efficient use of energy and its conservation.

#### **Girls' Education**

4788. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether societal sanctions and restrictions act as an impediment in the girls' education in rural, tribal and remote areas;

(b) if so, the recommendations made in the Programme of Action 1992 to increase enrolment of girls in secondary education;

(c) whether in pursuance of such recommendations any Boarding and Hostel facilities have been established for girl students of secondary and higher secondary schools in the country; and

(d) if so, whether any NGOs have been assigned with this task of establishing Boarding hostels and if so, the names and the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): The National Policy on Education expresses a resolve to widen access to secondary education with emphasis on enrolment of girls. The Policy also calls for a well-conceived edge in favour of women in order to neutralise the accumulated distortions of the past and also to play a positive interventionist role in the empowerment of women. The Programme of Action, 1992 also emphasises the need for some manifestation of intervention. The Programme of Action, 1992 identified certain steps to implement the postulates of National Policy on Education. One such step is a special enabling plan to ensure increase in the enrolment of girls. The Policy also stresses to encourage non-governmental and voluntary effort and provide financial assistance to them. In pursuance of the above, a Central sector Scheme for Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel Facilities for Girl Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools is being implemented from 1993-94. The scheme provides 100% assistance for maintaining hostels exclusively for

girls studying in Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools. The Scheme does not provide any assistance for construction of Boarding Hostels.

#### **Standard of Education in Government Schools**

4789. SHRI JANG PRAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standard of education in the Government schools is not up to the mark and is witnessing a downward trend;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any study in this regard has been conducted;

(d) if so, the findings hereof; and

(e) the measures the Government propose to take to improve the standard of education in Government schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Government does not have any comparative data or study report in this respect. However, an analysis of examination results of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) over the years shows that the pass percentage of private schools is higher than that of the Govt. schools especially in Delhi.

(b) Govt. schools cater to a very wide variety of students a majority of whom belong to socially, economically marginalised sectors and can very seldom adopt a selective or restrictive admission policy. Standard also depend on the authorities, managing and monitoring the schools.

(c) and (d): No such study has specifically been conducted.

(e) The efforts to upgrade the level of education are centered around improving the capabilities of teachers through in-service orientation and training and extending better support facilities through education technology, laboratories, libraries and special emphasis on critical areas like science, mathematics etc. Efforts are also being made to improve the contents and process of teaching learning so as to make the process of learning less stressful and more attractive.