

(c) Financial assistance is given to NGOs under various Schemes for Women and Child Development. They are consulted in the formulation of plans, programmes & policies in this regard. Their services are also utilised for appraisal, monitoring & evaluation of various programmes.

Setting up of NCERT Centres

5745. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up NCERT centres in the country during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Financial Assistance to Rural Girl Students

5746. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any special provisions for the financial assistance to rural girl students in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria for providing such assistance; and

(d) the manner in which the Government are going to spend this amount in different States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The Government propose to institute a scheme for free education for girls upto college level including professional courses details of which are being worked out. A provision of Rs. 100 crores has been earmarked for this purpose in the budget for the current financial year. Besides, a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes concern themselves with girls education in rural areas. The District Primary Education Programme, currently operative in 149 districts in 14 States, seeks to address educational problems in areas of low female literacy. The Non-Formal Education Scheme is also concerned with out of school children in backward and remote areas and has therefore a specific focus on girls. The Total Literacy Campaign also has a pronounced edge for promoting literacy amongst women. The Mahila Samakhya Programme is also another intervention in low female literacy areas.

[Translation]

Filling up of Vacancies

5747. SHRI ANUPALAL YADAV:
SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "BIJOY":

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of EDDA/MC and EL/BPM filed up with the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bihar since 1997, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation against the violation of rules and regulations in making these appointments in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from Bihar circle and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Payment of Compensation Charges for Warehousing Containers

5748. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Calcutta Port Trust Authorities are realising 'Payment of compensation charges for warehousing containers' under the receipts of 'Calcutta Dock Labour Board';

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Port charges at the Calcutta Port are irrational and exorbitant as compared to other major Ports in India;

(c) if so, the rationale behind charging higher ground rent for low value product like MDF as compared to other items in Customs Chapter '44'; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken to bring the ground charges at Calcutta Port at par with the ports in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN):

(a) The Calcutta Port Trust do not recover compensation charges from warehousing containers. However, there is a system of recovery of dispensation charges by the Calcutta Dock Labour Board for containers being stuffed or de-stuffed at the warehouse and ultimately passing through the port.