

(d) whether the Union Government proposed to set up a water testing laboratory in each district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, under the World Bank aided project, the laboratories of Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board are being strengthened including water testing facilities.

#### **Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala**

3514. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of students studying in Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala;

(b) whether the number of teachers working in these schools is less than the requirement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to fill up the existing vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The number of students studying in Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala is 5623.

(b) to (d) Against a total 283 sanctioned posts of teachers (PGTs, TGTs and Misc. categories) for the Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala, 266 teachers are in position and only 17 posts are vacant as on 30th November, 1998. These vacancies are presently filled by contractual/part-time teachers.

#### **Education for Marginalised and Disadvantaged Children**

3515. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sulabh Mahila Avom Bal Kalyan Sansthan has taken major initiative to expand education network for the marginalised and disadvantaged children in the society;

(b) if so, the details regarding its Sansthans (educational institutions) functioning at present in the country alongwith the facilities being provided to marginalised and disadvantaged children in the country, state-wise in the field of education;

(c) whether any assistance is also extended by UNESCO for this activity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Sulabh Mahila Avom Bal Kalyan Sansthan is not receiving any grants under the scheme of Non-Formal Education (NFE) which addressed to the educational needs of marginalised and disadvantaged children. The details about the activities of the said organisation are therefore not available.

(c) and (d) No assistance has been given by UNESCO under the scheme of Non-Formal Education.

#### **Public Participation in Enquiry**

3516. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to US Q. No. 43 on 30.11.98 and state :

(a) whether the Ministry have set its foot down on the committee's unanimous resolution to invite public views i.e. individuals/organisations to depose before the committee; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The matter regarding procedure to be followed by the Committee has been discussed and an acceptable course of action has been finalised.

#### **Financial Assistance Under NLM**

3517. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial assistance is being provided to the state Government under the National Literacy Mission;

(b) if so, the total financial assistance provided to the North-Eastern States including Sikkim during the last three years, year-wise, state-wise; and

(c) the number of people made literate in these States during the said period, year-wise, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Financial assistance under the National Literacy Mission is provided to the implementing agencies directly. The financial assistance provided to the agencies in the North-Eastern States, and the number of people made literate during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.