

Differences in Curricula of Universities, Higher Secondary and Intermediate Boards

846. Shri Sushil Chandra Verma : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is considerable difference in the curricula of different Universities, Higher Secondary and Intermediate Boards etc. for different degrees and diploma courses;

(b) whether such differences contribute to the various difficulties faced by students in moving from one State to another or even from one University to another in the same State;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to prescribe uniformity in curricula and standards throughout the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Arjun Singh) : (a) and (b) Each University is academically autonomous and prescribes its own courses of study. Similarly, curriculum in Higher Secondary Schools in each State is prescribed by its own Secondary/Higher Secondary School Board. It is, therefore, natural that there would be some differences in the courses and syllabi in different Universities and Schools in different States. However, the difference in curricula may not be substantial because there is a core structure of curricula which is generally followed both at College and School levels. Apart from differences in curricula, Inter-State and Inter-University mobility of students is dependent on several other factors such as medium of instruction, availability of residential facilities, continuity of academic sessions, etc.

(c) and (d) University Grants Commission has circulated model curricula in 27 subjects to all Universities in the country. It would be for the Universities to accept the model curricula with or without modification. As regards syllabi in Higher

Secondary Schools, NCERT has circulated in 1988 the "National Curriculum for Higher Secondary Education—A Framework" for the guidance of the States/UTs. NCERT also provides technical assistance to States and UTs for development of Syllabi and instructional material based on the National Curriculum Framework. The textbooks produced by NCERT are used in CBSE affiliated Schools including Kendriya Vidyalayas, Central Tibetan Schools, Sainik Schools and Navodaya Vidyalayas, thereby contributing to uniformity in school curriculum.

Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for Leprosy Control

847. Shri Sushil Chandra Verma : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the assistance demanded by the Government of Madhya Pradesh from the Union Government for leprosy control under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme during the last three years;

(b) the amount of assistance released by the Union Government as against the amount sanctioned; and

(c) by when the balance amount would be released ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shrimati D. K. Thara Devi Siddhartha) : (a) Rs. 439.77 lakhs for the period 1987-88 to 1989-90.

(b) The following assistance has been given to the States :—

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Year	Cash	Kind	Total
1988-89	100.00	10.00	110.00
1989-90	123.00	0.55	123.55
1990-91	140.50	61.58	202.08

(c) The amount of Rs. 439.77 lakhs is the total expenditure on leprosy control activities by the State. It also include the expenditure on Non-Plan components of NLEP which should be borne by the State. Arrears

would be considered for released on receipt of complete audited statements of expenditure on Plan component of NLEP from the State and a Certificate to the effect that this expenditure has not been met out of the Central Assistance in other health components.

Bidi Workers' Welfare Fund

848. **Shri Sushil Chandra Verma :** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether a bidi workers' welfare fund was established in 1977;

(b) if so, the total amount collected upto March, 1991 and the amount spent out of it for Bidi workers' welfare;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has made available 12 acres of land for construction of a 50 bedded hospital for such workers in Sagar; and

(d) if so, the time by which this hospital is likely to be opened ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour (Shri K. Ramamurthy) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total amount collected upto 31-3-1991 is Rs. 70.09 crores. Total expenditure upto 31-3-1991 under the Fund is Rs. 42.13 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Construction of hospital building is a time consuming job, as it requires several formalities to be completed before start of construction work i.e. preparation/approval of estimates drawings and clearance of the project etc. etc. Therefore no time limit can be framed.

[Translation]

Scholarships to Tribal Students Seeking Admission in Indian Institute of Technology

849. **Shri Dileep Singh Bhurja :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of weak financial position of the students of tribal areas seeking admission in the Indian Institute of Technology, the Union Government propose to grant separate Central Scholarships to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Arjan Singh) : (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, under the 'Post Matric Scholarship' Scheme, the eligible SC and ST students in the IITs undergoing undergraduate programmes are provided with free messing and a pocket allowance in lieu of Post Matric Scholarship.

[English]

Destruction of Gates at Wazirabad Barrage

850. **Shri Ram Vilas Paswan :** Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of gates at Wazirabad barrage were destroyed on the same night recently under mysterious circumstances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking on this account;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking has reported that 14 out of 17 weir gates were found bent, on January 2, 1991. These were bent to the extent varying from