

In response to the second question, would like to state that this section of society is definitely crippled, for years, but arousal of a sense of awareness and self esteem among these people is a matter of happiness. In response to the issue of making suggestions to the Chief Ministers regarding granting licences for arms, I do not want to express my personal opinion as a Minister, but as per the laws in force licences for arms should be issued to them.

### Training Courses at Vishwayatan Yogashram

[Translation]

451 SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether training courses at Vishawayatan Yogashram were suspended early this year and then restarted after a few months ;

(b) if so, the reasons for suspending the said training courses ;

(c) whether the students of Aparana Ashram, Katra (J&K) launched an agitation on April 30, 1990 demanding recognition of the diploma course by the Union Government for that year;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) the number of students who have been awarded one year diploma certificate since 1990 and the number of cases still pending in this regard;

(f) whether the Government propose to take over the Vishwayatan Yogashram; and

91-L/B(N)403L883(a)

(g) if so, the action contemplated in this regard ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b) All activities of Vishwayatan Yogashram, including training courses on Yoga, were suspended with effect from 30th April, 1990. Some students of Vishwayatan Yogashram, who had completed only part of the course, requested the Government to make arrangements for completion of their training. Although Government had no direct responsibility for the students of a private institution, as a humanitarian gesture the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy was entrusted with the task of completing the training course of such students. This course has since been completed on 31-7-1991.

(c) No, Sir. It is the students of Vishwayatan Yogashram who have been making this demand.

(d) The Department of Education in the Ministry of Human Resource Development has clarified that Vishwayatan Yogashram is not legally empowered to grant degrees or diplomas. Therefore the question of recognising their diploma does not arise.

(e) As per available information, Vishwayatan Yogashram has awarded provisional Diploma/Certificates to

14 students who completed one-year yoga training course in February, 1990. The Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, which completed the training of yoga students of Vishwayatan Yogashram on 31-7-1991, would be issuing appropriate Diplomas/Certificates to such students.

(f) and (g) Various alternatives are under consideration of the Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that all activities of Vishwayatan Yogashram were suspended with effect from 30th April, 1990. With a view to streamlining administrative and economic functioning of Yogashram, does the Government propose to constitute a Parliamentary Committee to look into administrative and economic irregularities committed by the management of Yogashram.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : Sir, I have stated in my statement that various alternatives are contemplated.

The alternative, as to whether any parliamentary probe should be held, suggested by the Hon. Member is a new alternative.

I have not indicated as to what are the measures we are going to adopt. It is a private institute, a private trust. In 1977 also, the Management was taken over for a specific period of

time. So, I would not like to say if I want to act. And that is why I have kept the matter as to which is the alternative we would like to adopt under consideration. Certainly such a case does not require any parliamentary probe. That much I can say.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the importance of Yoga does the Government propose to open Yoga training centres in backward areas like Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and especially Jharkhand, which is being given a stepmotherly treatment both by the Centre and the Government of Bihar.

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR : I would like to remind the Hon. Member that no stepmotherly treatment is being meted out to Jharkhand region. That is close to our hearts as the tribals live in that area. Our Government did and is doing all possible things for the development of that area, where mostly the backward classes and tribals live and whatever is justified we do that. As far as the matter of opening of the Yogashram in Bihar is concerned, I would like to tell the Hon. Member that there are at present five such Yogashrams in Bihar—at Dhanbad, Monghyr, Patna, Begusarai and Malatulli-Ranchi. Ranchi is situated in the same region which has been mentioned by the Hon. Member. So, there seems to be no need to open another Yogashram at Ranchi as one is already there.

[*English*]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : The Hon. Minister has said in his reply that various alternatives are under consi-

deration of the Government. What are those alternatives and when the Government is going to act? Nearly 40 employees of these institutions have been without pay for the last two years. Will the Hon. Minister make some interim arrangement for the payment of their salaries?

**SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR :** Let me be very frank with the Hon. Members of the House. I do not hide any information. The Health Department was giving a grant of Rs. 5 lakhs per year, but it was not meant for paying the employees for imparting training to the teachers. It was stopped in March, 1990 because the then Government considered it necessary that the grants should be given by the Department of Education. In April, an order was issued that such aided institutions should get grant from the Department of Education. That is why, this thing was stopped. So the institution has been closed and the employees have said that it is a lock-out. The Director of the Institute has said that it is not a lock-out. The party has gone to the Labour Commissioner and the Labour Commissioner has decided that it is a lock-out. I am told that he has directed that Swamiji or the Director should pay the wages. But the case is pending in the Labour Court. I would also persuade the Labour Court to decide the matter as early as possible. So the matter pertains to the Labour Court and not the Health Ministry though I have all the sympathies that the employees have suffered as a result of this.

**SHRI ANNA JOSHI :** What about the alternatives?

alternatives are there. As I said earlier, if we want to act, we should not say what we want to do. One alternative can be to take over the management by a suitable legislation as was done in 1977. But that will not be a permanent alternative. The second alternative will be to nationalise the institution. For that we have to pay the compensation. The third alternative would be not to do anything.

**SHRI ANNA JOSHI :** That is not the alternative.

**SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR :** Before I take any action I will have to go deep into the matter and take such action which the matter demands.

[Translation]

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has just said that it is a Private Trust. But it is not so. The Delhi Administration made Yoga as compulsory subject and appointed teachers for teaching that subject. It was mentioned in an advertisement that the students of this University only would be appointed on these posts. But the then Director opposed it. He was removed from office. He used to attend the meetings of the Interview Board also. I would like to know as to what would be the future of those thousands of children who have undergone this training course? And the Hon. Minister is also requested to let us know the future of the employees of that institution.

[English]

**SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR :** There is only one minute left. I do not want to hide the facts nor am I here to say quite frankly that two or three

protect anybody—anybody who may have allegedly committed any misdeemeanour or any other thing. All that I want to say in reply to Shri Khuranaji... he is an Hon. Member from Delhi and he must be knowing more details than anybody else—is that I am told that a case of cheating is pending in some criminal court in Delhi. . . (Interruptions) Please listen to me. I would not like to prejudice the case because the case is *sub judice*. I would not like to say anything which will, in one way or the other, jeopardise the interests of either of the parties. (Interruptions).

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Syllabi for Students from Lower K.G. to Plus 2 Standard

\*448. SHRI VIJY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be please to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the suitability of existing syllabi for students right from lower K.G. to + 2 standard:

(b) whether the existing syllabi do not overburden school children and make them unable to grasp the subjects; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to make fundamentals of the subjects interesting and easy to grasp?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986 envisages a national

system of education, one of the aspects of which is National Curricular Framework containing a common core along with other flexible components.

Keeping the postulates of NPE in view, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) brought out in 1988, a National Curricular Framework for all stages of school education. On the basis of the guidelines given in the Framework, the NCERT revised the entire school syllabi and brought out revised text books for classes I to XII. The Framework and the revised syllabi took into account various curricular concerns, including the question, of suitability, child-centred approach to education, relevance and curriculum load. Every care has been taken to see that the syllabi are suited to the needs of our country and appropriate for children's learning and development.

Based on the National Curricular Framework and the syllabi and textbooks brought out by NCERT, the States and Union Territories have also undertaken measures of curriculum renewal and development of new textbooks for different stages of school education for their introduction into the school system in a phased manner.

The last phase of publication of revised textbooks by the NCERT has been completed in December, 1990 and in a few States, the process is still on. According to the NCERT, it is too early to undertake a formal assessment of the suitability of the new syllabi.

The pedagogical thrusts stressed in the National Curricular Framework of 1988 as well as in the NCERT