

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5223
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2001
NON FORMAL EDUCATION SCHEME
ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) whether the Government have withdrawn the Centrally Sponsored Non-formal Education scheme;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the winding of the programme has had serious repercussions on the poor teachers: and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to revive and to promote non- formal education?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND OCEAN DEVELOPEME
(MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5223 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.8
ASKED BY SHRI ANANTA NAYAK REGARDING NON-FORMAL EDUCATION SCHEME

(a) to (d) The Centrally sponsored scheme of Non-formal Education was evaluated by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development and the Planning Commission. Based on their recommendations and the experiences of implementing agencies, the scheme has been revised as "Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative & Innovative Education (EGS&AIE) and made operational w.e.f. 1.4.2001.

The revised scheme is a part of overall programme of universalisation of elementary education and is to be implemented by State Level Societies who have been delegated powers to appraise, sanction and monitor the projects. The revised scheme has enhanced cost parameters and envisages the following broad strategies:-

- i) setting up of alternative schools in school-less habitations (EGS) within a radius of 1 Km.
- ii) interventions for mainstreaming of out-of school children through bridge-courses, back to school camps, etc. and
- iii) strategies for very specific, difficult groups of children who cannot be mainstreamed.

The guidelines for the revised scheme issued to the State/UT Governments contain a suggestion to give preference to Instructors of erstwhile Non-formal education programme, if they fulfil other conditions laid down for their engagement. In addition, the States may consider relaxation of age limit for any instructors and supervisors for being eligible for selection under various para-teacher schemes including for E.G.S. & A.I.E. To avoid any abrupt dislocation of functionaries, the State/UT Governments and Voluntary Agencies who were implementing the Non-formal education scheme were informed well in advance about the revision of the scheme and funding of the Non-formal scheme only upto 31.3.2001.