

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3858
ANSWERED ON:08.04.2003
VOCATIONAL COURSES
BISHNU PADA RAY

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that only one vocational course viz, Short hand and type-writing now called Secretarial Practice was available in Andaman & Nicobar Islands in a single school i.e, Government Girls Senior Secondary School, during the last 20 years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the efforts made by the Government to increase the coverage thereunder;
- (c) whether the Administration have admitted during the 9th Plan document that 50% of students completing 10 years education, can be diverted to vocational courses; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for not making the coverage of vocational courses to many more schools to solve the problem of growing unemployment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR.VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

- (a)The Vocational Course on Secretarial Practice has been implemented since 1980-81.The course on I.T Applications has been introduced since 2002-03. The courses on Horticulture and Marine Fisheries introduced earlier have been stopped due to poor response from the students
- (b)During September - October,2002 a survey was conducted to assess the potential of introduction of more courses. It is proposed to introduce more job- oriented courses Viz. I.T., Marketing, Travel & Tourism in a phased manner during the 10th Plan period.
- (c) & (d) The 9th Plan target was to divert 50% of the 10th pass-outs to the Vocational Stream. However, due to lack of interest among students in vocational Stream and lack of employment opportunities the students were found reluctant to join the vocational courses. Most of the students are focused towards the allotment of professional courses at Mainland. In the 10th Plan a provision of Rs.45 lakh for the scheme for introduction of more job oriented courses according to the availability of the students has been proposed.