

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2281
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
AGE LIMIT FOR BOARD EXAMINATIONS
PRABHA RAU;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that no child is to be admitted to the nursery class in any school before completing the age of five years as per the norms laid down in this regard;
- (b) if so, whether the cases have been reported about the children having passed the tenth standard at the age of nine years through the open school method;
- (c) if so, whether no minimum age limit is prescribed for appearing in the board examinations through the open school method;
- (d) if so, whether the CBSE has prescribed any age limit for eligibili of candidates appearing for the tenth and twelfth standards examination; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for allowing the students to appear in the tenth and twelfth examinations conducted by the different boards before completing the minimum age required for such examinations?

Answer

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

- (a): The students are required to be admitted as per the rules prescribed by the respective Governments of State/UT where the school is located
- (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. A s per the information received from National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), NIOS had prescribed the minimum age limit viz 14,15 & 16 for Bridge, Secondary & Senior Secondary respectively till the Academic year 2000-2001. From the Academic Year 2001-2002 onward, there is no age limit for appearing in NIOS examinations. The exemption in the age limit has been made keeping in view the spirit of Open Learning System to make available education to any person of any age. The age factor should not come as a constraint to students joining NIOS, as otherwise it may lead to frustration to highly talented children who wish to join the course but are not able to do so because of age limit.
- (d): In so far as Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is concerned, there is no higher/lower age prescribed for admission subject to the fact that school has to admit the students as per the rules prescribed by the respective State Government/UT where the school is located.
- (e): Does not arise.