

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1442
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2000
UNIVERSALISATION OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether universalisation of elementary education or education for a minimum of eight years is a compelling agenda for countries in the South Asia Region;
- (b) if so, whether a five days conference was held recently in Delhi in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details regarding the participant countries, points discussed and decisions taken therein; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

- (a) Universalisation of elementary education is a high priority in India and some other countries of the South Asia Region.
- (b) A two-day Workshop on Education for All (EFA)2000 Assessment was held in New Delhi on 25-26 May, 1999 of countries of the South and West Asia sub-region of UNESCO.
- (c) The participating countries, viz. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka discussed draftsof Country Reports on EFA 2000 Assessment and received feedback from participants for finalization of these reports.
- (d) The Government is committed to achieve EFA goals as enunciated in the National Policy on Education, 1986(as updated in 1992), the Asia Pacific Regional Framework and the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum in April, 2000.