

investigations carried out by National Institute of Communicable Diseases indicate that about 3-5% of the population are chronic carriers of Hepatitis-B.

(c) and (d) A committee has been constituted to examine the feasibility of introduction of Hepatitis-B vaccine under the National Immunisation Programme.

[Translation]

National Literacy Programme

4661. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount earmarked for the implementation of National Literacy Programme and mid-day meal scheme could not be spent thereon;

(b) if not, the total amount allocated for the said schemes during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(c) the amount spent separately during the above mentioned years;

(d) whether there were major shortcomings in the implementation of these schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The total amount allocated for the National Literacy Programme for the years 1993-94, 94-95 & 95-96 is Rs. 625.79 crores & for Mid-Day Meal Scheme is Rs. 611.79 crores. The amount spent under National Literacy Programme is Rs. 517.23 crores and under Mid-Day Meal scheme is Rs. 441.37 crores during the above mentioned years. Owing to the slow progress of literacy campaigns particularly in the Hindi-speaking States, and lack of response from State Governments for taking up specific adult education schemes, there was a shortfall in the expenditure against the allocations for the National Literacy Programme. The shortfall in the expenditure in respect of Mid-Day Meal scheme was in view of the fact that some State Governments took time to initiate the scheme in their respective States.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Vacancies of Lecturers

4662. SHRI H.Y. METI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC has prescribed that only those candidates who have obtained Ph. D. or M. Phil. by December 31, 1993 are eligible for lecturership in all the colleges in the country, provided they have 55 percent marks at their Post Graduate examination;

(b) whether the teachers who acquired M. Phil/Ph. D with 55 percent of marks after 1993 are not being considered for the post of lecturers; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps proposed to extend the cut-off date beyond 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for appointment of teachers in Universities and colleges notified in 1991 and 1995, inter-alia, provide that the candidates for the post of lecturer must have good academic record with atleast 55% marks or an equivalent grade at the Master's degree level in the relevant subject. The candidates, besides fulfilling these qualifications, should also have cleared the eligibility test for lecturers conducted by UGC, CSIR or similar tests accredited by UGC, or should have submitted their Ph.D. thesis or completed M. Phil. degree by 31.12.93. The cut-off date of 31.12.93 was prescribed as a transitory provision for the benefit of those candidates who were pursuing their M. Phil or Ph. D. courses in 1991 when the above UGC Regulations were notified in the first instance.

(c) UGC Regulations notified in 1991 provide that the Universities can relax the prescribed qualifications with the prior approval of UGC on a case to case basis.

[Translation]

Requirement of Nurses

4663. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of nurses required in India according to the norms fixed and the number of nurses working in various States, at present;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to fill the gap between the availability and requirement and

(c) the number of training centres opened in Madhya Pradesh for training of the nurses and the number of centres to be opened during 1996-97 and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per the Expert Committee Report on