

Vidyalayas have been opened for the children of transferable Government servants. Therefore, they have an optimum size of every section and children are admitted who fulfil these criteria. There may be in a section certain number of vacant seats which are then filled in on other basis too. Aspects like compassionate grounds like that of Armed Forces Offices who do not like to be in the field and so on should also be considered. But I do get very large number of requests for admission of those who do not fulfil this criteria of being children of Central Government servants who are transferable. It is not just possible to fulfil them for the very reason that there are no vacant seats.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there should be a provision that the Kendriya Vidyalayas throughout the country should be made accountable. Some Management Committee should be constituted to make these schools accountable, especially regarding irregularities in admissions so that the interests of the parents/guardians are protected and admissions do not take place according to the whims and fancies of the Principals. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is willing to consider the constitution of a Management Committee or anything else on similar lines with elected members on its board?

[English]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: Sir as far as Kendriya Vidyalayas are concerned, there are structures at various development levels, namely, at the Central level, at the regional levels and at the local levels. These are essentially the Management Committee's instructions. But they are not based on elected structures. We can certainly consider as to how the management structure can be changed with time. If there are any complaints with regard to any particular institution, I will be happy to look into it, if the same will be brought to my notice.

Extraction Plant for Wild Marigold Oil in Himachal Pradesh

*455. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up an extraction plant for wild marigold oil in Himachal Pradesh is pending clearance with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR);

(b) if so, the reasons for not clearing the project;

(c) whether CSIR explored the possibilities of producing perfume out of rose oil; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Research Council of CSIR Complex, Palampur has recommended that an extraction unit of large size for wild marigold oil should be set up and made available to the growers on cost basis. This proposal is currently under examination by CSIR. A small capacity distillation unit for extraction of marigold oil has been set up in CSIR Complex, Palampur in 1989. Modalities for financing and setting up of a larger unit would depend upon the response from Cooperative and Commercial Entrepreneurs and are being worked out.

(c) and (d). Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow has introduced a variety of rose from Bulgaria in Kashmir Valley, and has set up a semi-commercial pilot plant for processing

rose oil. 5 Kg. rose oil was produced in 1989-90 worth Rs. 5 lakhs. Major chemical constituents in rose oil have been identified by CIMAP. Oil factory examination of the rose oil has been carried out by two of the country's leading perfumers, who find it of superior quality, equal to the best in the world. Production of perfume is done by industry.

National Botanical Research Institute, has also developed a process and designed a field distillation unit for distillation of rose oil.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Sir, the Indian scientists are on the process of finding out measures to solve the rural economic problem of India. But those scientists are being neglected and the attention paid by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research towards this aspect is also negligible. The Minister in reply to part 'a' of my question has stated that there is a proposal by CSIR to set up a wild marigold oil plant. I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you, as to what are the steps taken to extract the oil and finance Cooperative and Commercial Entrepreneurs who go in for wild marigold oil extraction. How much time will CSIR take to consider and clear the proposal?

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: As far as CSIR is concerned, there is a proposal from the CSIR Complex at Palampur in Himachal Pradesh. Its research council has suggested that a large size plant should be set up for this particular purpose, namely, extraction of wild marigold oil. This proposal has to be examined because CSIR as such does not operate commercial undertakings. It can certainly operate certain facilities and later these can be actually taken over in the cooperative and commercial sectors. But it can demonstrate as to how this can be done and for this purpose, there is a small capacity unit already functioning.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Sir, the wild marigold cultivation gives a profit of one lakh rupees in one hectare. If this cultivation will be given emphasis, then the conditions of the poor farmers of Himachal Pradesh

also will develop. Moreover, there is a large potential of this cultivation. I would like the Minister to throw some light on this aspect.

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: As far as wild marigold extraction of oil is concerned, there are already three extraction units in the private sector. One unit is in Kulu and two units are in the Mandi district which distil around one and a half tonnes of oil annually. This is collected in the wild form. It is certainly true that we can increase the yield of marigold to something like 25 to 30 tonnes per hectare per year if we cultivate it rather than depending on the wild form. This can produce about 1 kilogram of oil. As the hon. Member has pointed out, it is also true that if scientific cultivation is carried out, we can get as much as Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 per hectare per year. That is why, the knowhow has been developed in terms of extraction and plants have been set up. This is being exported to France and Germany at an export price of Rs. 2000 per kilogram. We wish to enlarge it. But, as I said, CSIR does not operate commercial plants by itself. Therefore, it would have to ensure that this knowhow is available to those in the cooperative sector who can grow marigold and offer it for scientific and technological purposes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the results of the small capacity extraction unit. The financial assistance and the modalities for setting up a large scale unit will depend on the reactions of co-operative and commercial entrepreneurs. Does the Government propose to invite the Private Sector in this regard? And if so have you approached any private sector company? How much time will it take?

[*English*]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: As I mentioned earlier, there are extraction units already set up in the private sector, i.e., one unit in Kulu and two units in Mandi. Knowhow is available. But one may want to ask as to

whether, in a large scale plant set up for research, if somebody grows wild marigold on a commercial basis with a high yield, oil extraction can be done there or not. Is any service facility available to such persons or not? What I have said is that this would be a facility which can be set up in the cooperative sector and this is precisely the aspect which is currently under the consideration of CSIR.

[*Translation*]

Curtailment in Budget Allocations for Education

*456. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been continuous curtailment in the budget allocations for education during the last three years and consequent slowing down in the pace of progress of education; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) The plan budget of the Education Departments of Central and State Governments has increased from Rs. 1097 crores in 1986-87 to Rs. 2374 crores in 1989-90.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the plan Budget of the Education Departments of Central and State Governments has increased from Rs. 1097 crores in 1986-87 to Rs. 2374 crores in 1989-90. This is true but the budget allocation is slightly more than 2 per cent of the total Budget allocation. Whenever the issue of progress of Education is raised, either a Committee or a Commission is set up. The Kothari Commission had submitted a report in which it was recommended that not less than 6 per cent of the total Budget be spent on Education. Therefore, I would like to know what steps are being taken to implement the recommendations of the Kothari Commission?

[*English*]

PROF. M.G.K. MENON: As you are aware, the Kothari Commission report is now more than two decades old. We are, therefore, in a new situation. As you are also aware, we have had a very extensive debate as a result of which we had what is called the National Policy on Education, 1986. But this Policy will now be reviewed and we will see what should be done.

With regard to the basic point made by the hon. Member, I am in full agreement with him. Education should have the highest priority. It is what creates the human resources of this country. However, I would also like to provide some information that what we are talking of is outlays on education and in the National Policy on Education, 1986, what was stated is that in the 8th Plan and beyond, this will uniformly exceed six per cent of the national income. The Central Statistical Organization has recently released the figures regarding estimated national income for 1988-89 which places this figure, NNP at Rs. 306822 crores at current prices. And if you compare the Budget for education as a percentage of this, it comes to 4.2 per cent for 1989-90. But then this is certainly below