

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of the Seminar were to discuss the problems with regard to acceptance and implementation of the Work Experience programme at different stages of school education in the States and Union Territories; to formulate fresh guidelines for effective implementation of the Work Experience Programme keeping in view the experiences gained by various organisation both governmental and non-governmental organisations in its implementation; and to share experiences and exchange ideas on "Earn While you Learn Scheme" being implemented in some States aimed at giving the Work Experience programme a pre-vocational focus.

(c) On the basis of the discussions held during the Seminar, fresh guidelines for effective implementation of the work experience programme at different stages of school education were evolved.

[*Translation*]

Declaration of Chetichand (Sindhi Divas) as a Public Holiday

3982. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to declare Chetichand (Sindhi Divas) as a Public Holiday; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISH-WANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b).

Chetichand is one of the 12 occasions for the purpose of selecting 3 optional holidays every year for Central Government administrative offices. Central Government operative offices as also industrial, commercial & trading establishments have the option to include Chetichand as one of the holidays, every year, within the permitted number.

[*English*]

Environmental Pollution due to Smoke from Vehicles in Delhi

3983. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI R. N. RAKESH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the environment of capital is badly polluted due to emitting of smoke by DTC buses and other vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to make any rule to check the emitting of smoke by the vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). According to the ambient quality survey, the air pollution levels in respect of Sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen are well within the prescribed limits. However, the levels of suspended particulate matter are above prescribed standards largely due to the natural dusty conditions. Vehicular emissions particularly of oxides of nitrogen and of carbon monoxide contribute to air pollution. About 47% of the vehicles in Delhi have been found to violate the prescribed emission standards.

(c) and (d). Gross emission standards for vehicles have come into force with effect from 1.3.1990 and are enforced.