

**SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO :** Earlier the Paper Control Order was in vogue. Under that Order, whatever was happening that I have explained. I have submitted just now that we had to find out some new way out to get rid of that. For this it was necessary that the old Paper Order should be repealed. That was repealed. Consequently, no earlier provision is now in existence. We have devised a new method for making supplies which is working quite efficiently. I think there is no use in repeating the old things.

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS :** I have asked for procurement policy. So far you have not thrown light on that.

[English]

**PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** What are the prices at which the paper has been supplied to the educational institutions for the purpose of educational exercise etc. to the States by the Hindustan Paper Corporation and the private industries early ?

**SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI :** Sir, against the price of Rs. 10,910 per MT quoted by HPC they have been asked to supply paper at Rs. 10,560 per MT as approved by the Government. Allottees, i.e., the State Government, are getting paper at Rs. 7,560 per Metric Tonne. The Department of Education is subsidising HPC to the extent of a maximum of Rs. 3000 per MT. The listed price of the comparable mills is indicated below :

Tamil Nadu Newsprint & Paper Ltd., Madras	Rs. 11,400
Orient Paper Mills, Amlai Unit	Rs. 11,600

[Translation]

If you want the list, I can send it. The information is available for Sirpur and Century paper mills also.

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER :** Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Contingency Plan for Medical Care During Drought

\*189. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :**

**DR. V. VENKATESH :**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have chalked out an elaborate contingency plan for medical care during drought ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to the States to gear up the State health machinery to meet the situation created by the unprecedented drought ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The contingency plan prepared by the Central Government is in the form of a guideline to help the State Governments in preventing the outbreak of epidemic diseases and providing medical care espacially to the most affected sections of the population.

### Import of Medical Equipment for the Treatment of MIC Victims

\*194. **SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to import medical equipments from the United States to be used in the treatment of the MIC victims ;

(b) whether any agreement has been reached in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). The Government of Madhya Pradesh through the Government of India approached the world Health Organisation in December 1984 for procurement of medical equipment from international market at competitive prices for use in connection with the treatment of MIC victims. The World Health Organisation had procured the medical equipment in conformity with their purchase procedures. Some of these equipment have been obtained from the United States of America. Recently, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has floated global tenders for procurement of medical equipment for treatment of MIC victims. This tender has not yet been finalised.

Government is further informed that the Indian Red Cross Society is considering import of medical equipment and has made enquiries, among other countries, from the USA for treatment of gas victims. However, no agreement in this connection has yet been finalised.

#### **Proposals Under New Education Policy**

\*195. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

SHRI H.B. PATIL :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under-consideration of Government for setting up of vocational schools, spreading environmental education, opening of more Kendriya Vidyalayas and providing greater thrust to technical education under the new education policy ; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the scheme and the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

#### **STATEMENT**

Various committees and commissions that have considered the question of educational reforms have consistently recommended that education at the secondary stage should be given a vocational bias to link it with the world of work. However, despite the priority accorded to this programme in the report of Kothari Commission, the erstwhile National Policy on Education 1986 as well as in the successive Five Year Plans, implementation of the programme has remained weak. Vocational courses at the higher secondary stage are presently available only in 12 States and 4 Union Territories and the coverage remains at just 2.5% of the total number of students entering higher secondary fold. Some of the difficulties and shortcomings in the present implementation of the programme are the following : —

- (i) Vocational education was to be at the +2 stage of the 10+2 system and those States which did not switch over to this pattern did not introduce vocational courses also.
- (ii) Vocational education being semi-technical in nature requires investments of a higher order compared to general education. The States have been unable to find resources of the order required for an effective programme of vocational education.
- (iii) Vocational institutions find it difficult to obtain the services of properly qualified teachers. There is also a dearth of suitable instructional materials for the students.