(d) The Central Government have not undertaken any specific study on teachers' strike.

[English]

Recruitment of Teachers by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for North East Region

*505. SHRI RAHIM KHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVEL-OPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has been recruiting teachers for posting to different States of North-East Region every year and sometimes specially also;

(b) the total number of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers of different categories recruited by the Sangathan during the preceding three years; and

(c) the percentages of teachers recruited, who do not belong to North-East Region vis-a-vis those who belong to this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DE-PARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CUL-TURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RE-SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SAHI): KRISHNA (a) Recruitment of teachers is made by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan every year through an open all-India advertisement. Panels are drawn up in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan Regionwise and not State-wise. Special recruitment for North-Eastern Region was made only once in 1984.

(b) Approx. 1100 teachers were recruited during the proceeding three years for the Kendriya Vidyalayas in the North-Eastern Region.

(c) No such statistics is maintained by me Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

Forest Cover in Karnataka

*506. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the

Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of forest cover in the State of Karnataka;

(b) whether it is below the minimum required level; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the torest cover in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS : (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) According to a survey carried out by the Forest Survey of India the forest cover in the State of Karnataka for the period 1981-83 was 16.82% of the geographical area of the State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Large scale afforestation programmes have been taken up in the State under various schemes like Social Forestry including Rural Fuelwood Plantation, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, National Rural Employment Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme, Western Ghat Development Programme. An externally aided social forestry project is also being implemented. Green belt programme has been initiated in the cities.

To control felling of trees on the private lands, Tree Preservation Act, 1976 has been enacted. Indiscriminate diversion of forest land for non-forest uses has been checked under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. To curb illicit fellings and smuggling of timber intensive patrolling is being undertaken by the mobile squads in the sensitive areas.

Reservation for SC/ST Medical Graduates in P.G. Entrance Examination

*507. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN SHRI GANGA RAM:

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