

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (c). Decision to open new Kendriya Vidyalayas in 1990-91 session has not been finalised so far. A proposal to open a new Kendriya Vidyalaya at Badwah town of Khargone District of Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of the Sangathan.

[English]

Vesting of forest Officials with Powers at Par with Police

1731. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH.
SHRI D AMAT:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to equip forests officials with powers at par with Police regarding Search, Seizure and arrest of poachers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROURAY): (a) Under Section 50 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, authorised Forest officers have already been given powers at par with Police officers in respect of search, seizure and arrest of persons committing an offence under the Wild Life (Protection) Act.

(b) In view of the answer in part (a) above, the question does not arise.

Regional Engineering College under Central Scheme

1732. SHRI C. SHRINIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Engineering Colleges functioning in various States are under the Central Scheme;

(b) the criteria followed for giving admission to these Engineering Colleges;

(c) whether Government will consider holding entrance Test for admissions to these Regional Engineering Colleges; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The Regional Engineering college (RECs) are a joint venture of the Central Government and the respective State Governments, where these are located Fifty percent of seats in each Regional Engineering College are earmarked for admission of students passing their qualifying examination from the State where the Regional Engineering College is situated, and the remaining fifty percent seats are earmarked for admission of students from other States/ Union Territories. The Regional Engineering Colleges are affiliated to various State Universities and admissions are made by each Regional Engineering College on the basis of entrance test or on the basis of merit in the qualifying examination as per the procedure adopted by the State. For this reason, there is no proposal to conduct an entrance test for admission to the Regional Engineering Colleges.