

News Item Captioned "Compulsory Dowry a Commercial Practice"

1301. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH:
SHRI ANAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report captioned "Compulsory Dowry a Commercial Practice" in the Patriot dated January 29, 1985 ;

(b) if so, whether Government have caused any independent study regarding the impact of 'Dowry Abolition Law' and the connected steps to abolish the evil of dowry; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) Yes, Sir, through News-Paper Report.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

Benefits of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme which Reached Weaker Sections in Karnataka

1302. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the benefits of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme have reached the Weaker Sections viz. Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes and weaker sections of the Society in Karnataka ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, activity-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) yes, Sir,

(b) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme provides

the following package of services to children upto the age of 6 years, pregnant women and nursing mothers :—

1. Supplementary nutrition ;
2. Immunization ;
3. Health Check-up ;
4. Referral services ;
5. Nutrition and Health education ; and
6. Non-formal pre-School education

Karnataka has 78 ICDS projects; 48 Centrally-sponsored and 30 State-Sector. The State Government has reported the number of beneficiaries as 8.35 lakhs. Of them 22.84% belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, while the remaining 77.16% belong to backward classes, weaker sections and families below the poverty line.

National Highway Passing Through Maharashtra

1303. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) number of National Highways passing through the State of Maharashtra;

(b) which are these National Highways, details thereof;

(c) what is the volume of traffic on these Highways; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to make them more durable for heavy traffic ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :

(a) Ten.

(b) and (c). Statement is attached.

(d) The National Highways in Maharashtra are traffic worthy and are being continuously improved keeping in view the traffic and the availability of financial resources.