

(b) if so, whether Government contemplate to make the primary and secondary education purposeful, employment oriented and talent oriented in these Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) No vocational courses have been introduced in the Navodaya Vidyalayas so far, since no vidyalaya, as yet, has come to have class XI; and it is only in this class that vocational courses are to be introduced as per the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

(b) Navodaya Vidyalayas do not provide education at primary level, Government have decided to review and the Navodaya Vidyalaya scheme based on the experience thus for.

[English]

Provision for Sustenance and Support to Medical and Engineering Post Graduates

2053. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CSIR Scientists pool scheme provides sustenance and support to medical and engineering post-graduates;

(b) if so, the period for which this support is given and whether there is any difference between the medical and engineering cadres regarding the duration of the support; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DE-

PARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). The Scientists' Pool Scheme provides temporary placement of highly qualified Indian scientific and technical personnel including medical and engineering post-graduates for a fixed tenure. Presently, the tenure for medical and engineering Pool Officers is 2 years. There are no cadres in the Pool and also no discrimination between the Pool Officers belonging to these disciplines regarding the tenure.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Proposal to Change Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme

2054. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose restrictions on opening new Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, whether the new education policy, under which Navodaya Vidyalayas were opened, needs to be reviewed comprehensively;

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to enforce some alternate education policy in place of the said New Education Policy;

(d) if so, the measures being taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the particulars of proposals of the Government to guarantee autonomy to the educational institutions and see that they are open to common man instead of only to the elite ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a). Yes, Sir. Government have decided to review the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme, and not to open more schools pending this action.

(b) to (e). Government have decided to review the National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986. The modalities for this are being worked out. Enforcement of an alternative education policy, pending this review, does not arise.

Sale of Old Vehicles by Defence Vehicle Depots

2055. SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence Vehicle Depots sell old vehicles after the expiry of their life span;

(b) if so, the number and types of vehicles sold by each depot during last three years;

(c) whether complaints have been received that the vehicles are sold out after removal of some parts therefrom in the depots;

(d) whether Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This information is being collected.

(c) to (e). In order to ensure the maximum utilisation of components/ancillaries, and to achieve economies in this regard, cannibalisation/ removal/replacement of components is undertaken as part of a conscious policy. Complaints are infrequent. When received, they are gone into on merits. No such complaint could be substantiated in the recent past.

[English]

Group Insurance Scheme and Other Benefits to Teachers Working in Delhi Administration

2056. SHRI KALKADAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether benefits enjoyed by the Assistants in Government Offices are higher than those enjoyed by the TGTs & PGTs working in the schools run by the Delhi Administration despite the fact that the scale of pay and grade of teachers are higher than those of the Assistants;

(b) whether in the matter of group insurance scheme and other admissible benefits to the Assistants, the teachers are treated at par in the matter of payments before and after the death;

(e) if not, whether Government propose to remove this anomaly; and

(d) if so, the time by which it will be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). The Assistants working in the Delhi Administration are in the pay-scales Rs. 1400-2300, while the pay scale of Trained