

[Translation]

**Investment by NRI in Education Section**

2444. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

SHRI RAM KAPSE :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Non-Resident Indians have expressed their desire to make investment in the education sector in order to promote higher education in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) Considerable interest has been shown by Non-Resident Indians in promoting higher education in the country, especially in the fields of engineering, medicine and management.

Government have introduced the Private University (Establishment and Regulations) Bill, 1995 in Parliament recently to provide for the establishment and incorporation of self-financing universities in the country. This Bill, if enacted, would also enable Non-Resident Indians, who have retained Indian Citizenship, to set up such Universities.

[English]

**Consumer Welfare Fund**

2445. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received for assistance from the Consumer Welfare Fund during 1995-96, state-wise;

(b) the number out of them cleared so far;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for quick disposal of the remaining cases;

(d) the amount of assistance released so far from the above fund, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to

give assistance to various voluntary organisations to bring consumer awareness in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA) : (a) and (b) The Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) became operational on 27th January, 1994. During 1995-96, 221 applications have been received so far. The State/UT wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I. Out of these proposals only two have been cleared so far.

(c) In order to dispose of applications for assistance from Consumer Welfare fund, a separate Section has been created in the Ministry of Civil supplies, consumer Affairs and Public distribution w.e.f. 1.12.94 with the specific objective of clearing such proposals. Shortcomings in furnishing of information/documents are intimated to the Organisations/applicants. Speed of disposal depends on the promptness and completeness of documents sent by the applicants/organisations. As the applicant agencies take longer time in responding to the queries of the Central Government, a time limit of 30 days has now been fixed for furnishing the replies by applicants.

(d) Statewise assistance released under consumer Welfare Fund during 1995-96 is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(e) and (f) The consumer Welfare Fund Scheme of Government of India has been specifically designed to provide assistance to various Government/non-Government organisations for development and spread of consumer awareness in the country.

**STATEMENT-I**

S. No.	Name of States/U.T.	Applications received
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55
2.	Tamilnadu	43
3.	Uttar Pradesh	35
4.	Mizoram	1
5.	Rajasthan	7
6.	Delhi	9
7.	Orissa	10
8.	Bihar	5
9.	West Bengal	5
10.	Gujarat	10
11.	Haryana	5