

(b) whether the Government propose to make some special arrangements for educating the children of adivasis, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) As per 1991 Census, the districts of Dhanbad, Lohardaga, Ranchi, Gumla, Paschim Singhbhum and Purb Singhbhum forming parts of Chotanagpur-Santhal Paragana have higher literacy rate than average literacy rate for Bihar as a whole. Similarly, the districts of Palamu, Hazaribagh, Giridih, Deoghar, Dumka, Shahib Ganj and Godda have literacy rate lower than average literacy rate of Bihar as a whole. However, no information is available about the percentage of literate adivasis living in Chota Nagpur-Santhal Pargana area.

(b) & (c). The steps which have been taken to provide more educational opportunities for the children of Scheduled Tribes in the country as a whole including Chota Nagpur-Santhal Pargana area include abolition of tuition fees in Government schools at least upto upper-primary level, provision of support services for early childhood care through schemes such as integrated child development services; creches to enable girls to go to school, provision of incentives such as free textbooks, uniforms, attendance scholarships and mid-day meals; and provision of teaching aids/learning materials i.e. maps/ charts for work experience. A number of incentive schemes like pre-matric scholarship for the children of those engaged in unclean occupations, post-matric scholarship, book banks, grant-in-aid to State Governments for construction of hostels, Ashram Schools, overseas scholarships etc. are also being implemented.

Environmental Pollution in Metropolitan Cities

*6105. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the environmental pollution is on the increase in the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras;

(b) whether the Government are formulating any special scheme to free these cities from environmental pollution;

(c) if so, the outline thereof and the time by which these cities are likely to be freed from pollution; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to solve the problem of environmental pollution in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) According to the air quality survey, air pollution levels in these cities are by and large within the prescribed limits and continue to remain so. While the levels of sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen are well within the limits, particulate matter in these cities, except in Madras, is on the higher side. This is mainly due to the presence of dust and the high density of vehicular traffic. Water pollution in these cities is being by and large contained at present

(b) and (c). While no separate special scheme is being formulated, the on-going programme of pollution control has been intensified. It includes monitoring of air and water quality, laying down of standards and their enforcement. The steps taken/proposed to be taken by the government to solve the problem of environmental pollution include:-

- (1) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (2) Ambient air quality standards have been evolved.
- (3) A net work of ambient air and water quality monitoring stations has been set up.
- (4) These cities have been notified as Air Pollution Control Areas.
- (5) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operating of industries.
- (6) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards to keep the discharge of effluents and emissions within the stipulated limits.
- (7) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time-bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- (8) Schemes for construction /augmentation of sewage and drainage system and for treatment of sewage have been taken up. Such schemes have been taken up in Calcutta under the Ganga Action Plan of the Central Government.
- (9) A scheme has been initiated to give assistance to cluster of small scale industrial units for setting-up common effluent treatment plants.
- (10) Fiscal incentives are provided of
- installation of pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.
- (11) Gross and mass emission standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce the gross standards with effect from 1st March, 1990.
- (12) Public Awareness campaigns have been launched about vehicular pollution.
- (13) The petroleum industry has been asked to bring down the lead content in petrol to 0.15 grams/liter by 1993.
- (14) Every manufacturer of motor vehicles is required to submit a prototype of the vehicles manufactured for test by an agency specified by the government and given a certificate for conformity of production in compliance of the provision of the Rules, including emission standards. This provision has come into force from April 1, 1991.
- (15) The National Environmental Engineering Institute (NEERI) Nagpur is engaged in developing an indigenous catalytic converter for controlling exhaust emission for on-the-road vehicles.
- (d) Does not arise.