

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:302
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2004
FIRE SAFETY MEASURES IN SCHOOLS/COLLEGES
Baitha Shri Kailash;Nikhil Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country are not equipped with fire fighting equipment;
- (b) if so, whether in view of recent fire and tragedy in one of the schools at Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu, the Government propose to ensure availability of fire safety measures in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas all over the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof,
- (d) whether the Government has issued any directives to the State Governments for taking proper fire safety measures in all the schools/colleges of the country without any delay;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 302 BY S/SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR AND KAILASH BAITHA PUT DOWN FOR REPLY ON 17 AUGUST 2004

(a) to (f) . A preliminary assessment was carried out by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to find out whether the Vidyalayas under them have fire fighting equipment. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has reported that most of their Schools would require either installation of the equipment or maintenance. The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has reported that fire fighting equipment is installed and operational in 238 out of 508 Navodaya Vidyalayas. The KVS & NVS have been directed to ensure that all their buildings meet the requisite fire safety standard within 3 months.

The recent tragedy in an Aided Private School at Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu has highlighted the need for providing fire-fighting measures. The Minister of Human Resource Development has written to all the Chief Ministers and UT Administrators in this connection (copy enclosed).