

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA) : (a) to (e) Indian students studying in the former Soviet Union had been admitted to educational institutions there under different schemes. Following the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, Indian students have been facing difficulties in the independent Republics that have emerged therefrom arising out of the radical economic and political restructuring that has taken place in these countries. The latter has included demands for an increase in fees and payments of fees etc. in hard currency. Government have taken several steps to mitigate the difficulties being faced by Indian students in the former Soviet Union. The matter has also been taken up with the Governments of all the successor Republics that have emerged with a view to ensuring that Indian students be enabled to complete their studies on the terms and conditions under which they had originally been admitted.

Distance Education for Postgraduate Students in North-Eastern Region

2106. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Central and State Universities of North-East Region, the Distance Education for Post Graduate Studies is not accorded, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION & DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA) : (a) According to information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) the

Directory of Distance Education Institutes published by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) (1991) does not list any University in the North-East that offers any programmes through distance mode. There is also no open university in the North-Eastern Region at present.

According to information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC) it is for each University to decide which courses to offer and to conduct such courses. The UGC has not received any proposal for assistance from any university in the North-Eastern Region for Post Graduate Distance Education Programmes.

(b) Does not arise.

Research and Training Facilities for Teachers in North-Eastern Region

2107. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there are no facilities for research and training for the teachers in North-Eastern Region;

(b) whether Government propose to set up a Central Institute of Education in North-Eastern Region; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any study has been conducted in this regard; if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA) : (a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education, does not envisage setting up of any central institutions of teacher Training in