

**Construction of additional complex in National Museum, Calcutta**

1628. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Board of Trustees of National Museum in Calcutta intend to construct additional complex in the area adjoining Government College of Art;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the response of the authority of that college to such construction programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) A new Annex building of the Indian Museum, Calcutta is being constructed on its own land adjacent to Government College of Art and Crafts.

After discussions with the College authorities, a working arrangement has been finalised.

**University status to Manipal Academy of Higher Education**

1629. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manipal Academy of Higher Education situated in Modhao Nagar Manipal Karnataka has been granted a Deemed University Status; and

(b) if so, when and under what consideration?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India declared the Manipal Academy of Higher Education as an institution deemed to be a University vide notification dated 1st June, 1993.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has laid down guidelines for considering proposal for declaring an institution as deemed to be a University. Each such institution has to fulfill the minimum eligibility conditions in terms of objectives, infrastructural facilities, faculty positions commitment of minimum recurring annual grant so as to be financially viable, etc. The Commission appointed an Expert Committee in September, 1992 for an on the spot assessment of the level of teaching/research being carried out by the institutions and to see the infrastructural facilities existing there. After considering the report of the Expert Committee and satisfying that the Manipal Academy fulfilled the minimum prescribed conditions, the UGC made recommendation to the Government to declare Manipal Academy of Higher Education as an institution deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the UGC Act.

**Free Education to Girls**

1630. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide free education to every child of age group between 6 to 14 years under the Directive Principles enshrined in the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what effective measures are being taken by Government for providing free education to the girls of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) In accordance with the Constitutional Directive,

all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have abolished tuition fee in Government Schools upto upper primary level. Education in schools run by local bodies and private aided institutions is mostly free in the States/UTs. However, private unaided schools which constitute 3.7 per cent of the total elementary education schools in the country, do charge fee. Beyond elementary stage, the position differs from state to state. Some States, UTs have extended this facility to girls studying in Secondary/Senior Secondary stage also.

#### Non-Formal Education Programme

1631. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the non-formal education programme is being revamped to enable drop outs and working children to receive basic elementary education outside the formal educational system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof in this respect;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the programme will focus only on girls; and

(e) if so, whether the programme is operational in all the States if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The programme of non-formal education has been recently revised and revamped for implementation in the VIIIth plan.

(b) Under the revised scheme, the cost parameters from the centre level onwards including honorarium to NFE functionaries have been enhanced substantially. Moreover, the share of central assistance to States/UTs for co-educational NFE centres and administrative and resource support has been raised from 50 per cent to 60 per cent. The

percentage of girls' centres has been increased from 25 per cent to 40 per cent. The revised scheme also lays emphasis on strengthening training of NFE functionaries and the monitoring system, development of good quality teaching/learning material, enlisting community participation, promoting greater flexibility in implementation, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir. The programme lays special emphasis on girls education. However, all children, both non-starters and school drop-outs in the age group of 6-14 could avail of the benefits of the scheme.

(e) No, Sir. The programme is in operation in 20 States/UTs. The remaining States/UTs have not come forward with their proposals within the frame work of the scheme.

#### Japanese aid to Barkatullah University in Bhopal

1632. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Barkatullah University of Bhopal is the only one selected from Madhya Pradesh for special Japanese aid to strengthen environmental studies;

(b) if so, whether the amount will be routed through the University Grants Commission (UGC);

(c) what is the total aid to be provided to the said University; and

(d) whether any concrete proposals/mediations in this regard have been prepared by the University with details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.