

World Bank fund for SSA

*299. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has entered into a financial agreement with the World Bank to provide assistance worth \$600 million, to fund the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA);

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the second phase of SSA has since been commissioned, with the financial assistance of the World Bank;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) in what manner the financial assistance sought from the World Bank is being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) Government of India has entered into an agreement with the World Bank for assistance worth US\$600 million (about Rs. 2400 crore) for the period 2007-10 as partial funding towards the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme.

The World Bank has accepted the SSA as an ongoing programme alongwith its national design and implementation systems.

The World Bank assistance is received by Government of India as reimbursement upto a defined level against annual expenditures incurred by the SSA programme.

Over-regulation of higher education

*300. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT:

SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the time by when the over-regulation of higher education sector, which hurts the honest and indirectly abets the dishonest institutions, would end?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Entry 66 of List I of 7th Schedule of the Constitution empowers Parliament to make laws for co-ordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research and scientific and technical institutions. All regulatory bodies have been therefore established by Acts of Parliament. These bodies are also empowered by the relevant laws to issue regulations and/or guidelines for maintaining standards, which are to be adhered to by all educational institutions coming in the purview of the relevant statutory body.

The Councils or Government Board of the various Regulatory Bodies have suitable representations from the stakeholders. Consultations are also held with the various stakeholders as may be required, and their views are factored in by the Regulatory Bodies while framing any new regulations or before amending any of the existing regulations.
