

Fund for latent talents in schools

†2208. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is considering to set up a fund to bring forward the latent talents in schools/colleges from which meritorious students may get assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this fund has actually been set up;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, by when this fund is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India has launched National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme to award one lakh scholarships every year to meritorious students, whose parental income is not more than Rs. 1,50,000 per annum. The selected students will be given scholarships for study in classes IX to XII. Interest from a corpus of Rs. 3000 crore to be built up over 4 years, is envisaged to fund the scheme. The first installment of Rs. 750 crore is proposed to be credited to the corpus in 2008-09.

(c) to (e) No corpus could be set up due to non-availability of funds. The Ministry of Finance has now provided funds to set up corpus under the Scheme in the first supplementary grants of the Ministry of Human Resource Development but the funds have not yet been transferred. The corpus fund will be set up immediately on availability of funds.

Setting up of Indian Institutes of Information Technology

2209. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up Indian Institutes of Information Technology at different places in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A proposal to set up new Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode is under consideration of the Government. The details in this regard are being worked out.

Reaction of teachers on Sixth Central Pay Commission

†2210. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that college and university teachers are not pleased with the Sixth Central Pay Commission recommendations and have staged demonstration in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of demands made by the teachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission are not applicable to teachers in universities and colleges. A Pay Review Committee was separately constituted by the University Grants Commission for review of pay scales and service conditions of teachers in universities and colleges. Recommendations of the Committee have been considered by the Government and a decision has since been taken after taking into account the demands from the Teachers' Organisations.

Accordingly to available information, the Federation of Central Universities Teachers' Associations (FEDCUTA) had called for strike, demanding early revision of the pay scales, and the same has since been withdrawn.

Implementation of Sixth Central Pay Commission

†2211. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sixth Central Pay Commission has not been implemented in educational institutions, so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that interministerial difficulties are being faced in implementation of recommendation of the Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The 6th Central Pay Commission's recommendations in respect of employees of autonomous bodies have been made applicable to non-teaching staff of Centrally funded autonomous bodies under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Necessary orders in this regard have been issued by the Ministry. As far as teaching faculty of higher and technical institutions are concerned, they are governed by their separate Pay Review Committees.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Degree colleges in the States

2212. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of degree colleges including those running professional courses in different States and Union Territories;

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