

Technology (IIIT) at Bhubaneswar in view of the vast growth potential in IT sector;

(b) whether the State Government has sent a detailed project in the matter to the Centre; and

(c) if so, the status thereof and the time frame within which the approval would be accorded and conveyed to the State, especially when no reputed institute like NIS, IIT and IIM has been established in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Orissa has requested to establish an Indian institute of information Technology (HIT) at Bhubaneswar. This Ministry is considering setting up of new IIITs in the country during the 11th Five Year Plan. The proposal of the Government of Orissa will be given due consideration at the time of the finalization of the location of the Institutes.

Mandatory accreditation of universities and colleges

1189. DR. PRABHA THAKUR

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether Government consider making accreditation mandatory for universities and colleges, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government would consider linking annual grants to a university with its accreditation score;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government would also consider giving functional and financial autonomy to the universities with higher accreditation score; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has been set up under Section 12 CCC of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 for

assessment and accreditation of institutions of higher learning. There are 357 Universities and nearly 18,000 Colleges in the country, out of which only 129 Universities and 2956 Colleges have been assessed and accredited so far. In view of the magnitude of the task at hand, presently it is not feasible to make accreditation mandatory for Universities and Colleges.

(b) and (c) In view of the above, there is no proposal to link annual grants to a University with its accreditation score. However, the UGC takes into account the accreditation status of an institution while considering proposals received under schemes such as 'College, with Potential of Excellence'.

(d) and (e) The Government is already committed to respect the autonomy of higher education institutions in the country, irrespective of their accreditation score.

Job oriented education system

†1190. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL:

DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to give weightage to a job oriented education system having felt the need to bring about changes in the present education system;

(b) if so, the kind of changes Government are considering to bring about in the present education system and the roadmap thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government is aware that one of the aims of the Education System is to cater to the needs of the job market.

Institutes such as the IITs, IIMs and NITs provide qualified manpower in the Technical and Management field. The maintenance and growth of these Institutes is a continuous process. There has also been growth in

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