

therefore, been requested to identify suitable land for locating the Central University at a place well connected, preferable by air, and having good social infrastructure, as available in Patna, Vaishali, Gaya or Nalanda.

Formation of Anti Ragging Committees by colleges

1895. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of colleges and other institutions of higher learning aided by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and other central agencies where serious cases of ragging leading to deaths and severe injuries were reported during 2008 and 2009 so far separately;
- (b) the number of these colleges and institutions which have not set up Anti Ragging Committee as per Supreme Court directions; and
- (c) the action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No information was being maintained centrally in regard to cases of ragging during the period referred to in the question. However, a case involving death of a medical student was reported in the month of March, 2009, as a consequence of an incident of ragging at the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Medical College, Tanda in Himachal Pradesh. The University Grants Commission has notified, on 17th June, 2009, its regulation namely "The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". These regulations are comprehensive and provide for a number of preventive, punitive and prohibitive measures including setting up of Anti Ragging Committee, stopping of grants by UGC and also withdrawal of affiliation/recognition or other privileges conferred, if higher education institutions fail to comply with any of the provision of regulations or fail to curb ragging effectively. The regulations also require higher education institutions to take effective steps in order to sensitize students on the dehumanizing effects of ragging and generate awareness among all stakeholders regarding the penal laws applicable to incidents of ragging. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has also notified its anti-ragging regulations on 01.07.2009.

Participation in higher education

1896. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the participation of students in higher education in the country is quite low compared with the advanced countries;
- (b) whether it is making any concerted efforts to increase it; and
- (c) if so, what are the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher

Education is low compared to several other countries and there is a need to expand the intake capacity in Higher Education to raise our GER. The strategy being followed is to expand capacity as well as increase opportunities of access to all sections of the society, while maintaining standards. Expansion of capacity in higher education is a joint effort of the State Governments and the Central Government. The Eleventh Five Year Plan outlay on Higher Education is nearly 10 times of the actual expenditure under the Tenth Five Year Plan with such priorities as are going to significantly increase the access to higher education along with equity and excellence in our universities and colleges. 15 new Central Universities (including the conversion of three State Universities into Central Universities) have been established with effect from 15.1.2009 in hitherto uncovered States. 14 Universities aiming at world class standards are proposed to be set up in phases. A new scheme for assisting the State Universities/State Governments for establishing a model college in each of the 374 districts which have a Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the national level, is under consideration. Eight new IITs in the country have been set up. A proposal to set up Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode is under consideration in the Ministry of Human Resource Development during Eleventh Five Year Plan. Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages establishment of eight IIMs in the country. A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely "National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology" has been launched by the Government to leverage the potential of ICT, in teaching and learning process.

Use of mother tongue in imparting instructions to children

1897. SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the policy of the Central Government regarding imparting instruction in the mother tongue of the children, called as home language of the children in Yashpal Committee Report from primary, 1st standard to 4th standard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): National Curriculum Framework, 2005 recommends that mother tongue or home language of children should be the medium of instruction at schools and if a school does not have provision for teaching in the child's home language(s) at the higher levels, primary school education should be covered through the home language(s).

Regulation on seats in higher education

1898. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the numbers of graduates and post graduates passing out every year are far in excess as compared to employment opportunities available per annum;