

(e) the number of students who have taken vocational education in Tenth Five Year Plan in Rajasthan; and

(f) how is overall vocational education scenario in Rajasthan and how does it compare with other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education was launched in 1988. Under the Scheme financial assistance is provided to State Governments and Union Territories (UTs) to impart vocational education in Government and Government aided higher secondary schools to enhance employability.

(c) to (f) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, no grant has been released to the State Government of Rajasthan during Tenth and Eleventh Plan period. Government of Rajasthan has discontinued implementation of the scheme since 1999-2000.

#### **Constitution of Yashpal Committee**

1104. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:  
SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. (Retd.) Yashpal for examining the prevailing higher education system and render suggestion for reforms thereof;

(b) if so, the background of culmination of the committee;

(c) the details about the constitution of the committee, including its constituents, and terms of reference thereof;

(d) whether the committee has since submitted its report;

(e) if so, the details of its recommendations;

(f) whether Government is contemplating to implement the same;

(g) if so, the details thereof indicating time-frame proposed, if any, for implementation; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (h) A Committee to "Advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education" was constituted by the Government on 28th February, 2008, under Prof. Yash Pal with members is given in the Statement-I (See below). The terms of reference of the Committee are given in the Statement-II (See below). The Committee submitted its Report, the recommendations of which are given in the Statement-III (See below). While the other recommendations are under consideration of the Government, establishing an over-arching regulatory authority for over-seeing higher education in all its dimensions has been accorded a priority.

***Statement-I***

*List of Members of Committee to advise on renovation and rejuvenation  
of Higher Education*

1. Prof. Yash Pal,  
Chairman,  
UGC/AICTE Review Committee,  
11-B, Super Deluxe Flats,  
Sector-15A, NOIDA – 201301.
2. Prof. (Dr.) N.R. Madhava Menon,  
Member, Commission on Centre-State Relations,  
Government of India  
Vigyan Bhawan Annexe,  
Maulana Azad Road,  
New Delhi – 11.
3. Prof. Pulin B. Nayak  
Deptt. of Economics,  
Delhi School of Economics,  
Delhi University,  
Delhi – 110 007.
4. Prof. L.M. Patnaik,  
Vice Chancellor,  
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology,  
Girinagar, Pune.
5. Prof. Kaushik Basu,  
C. Marks Professor of International Studies and Professor of Economics and  
Director Centre for Analytic Economics, Deptt. of Economics,  
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York – 14853.
6. Shri S.V. Giri,  
A/2, West Prasanthi – 1,  
Prasanthi Neelayam,  
Ananthapur Distt. (A.P.).
7. Prof. G.K. Chadha,  
(Former V.C. JNC)  
Member Economics Advisory Council in the PM  
Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi.
8. Dr. (Smt.) Malini Bhattacharya,  
Member, National Commission for Women,  
4, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi.

9. Prof. Goverdhan Mehta,  
Chairman, National Assessment and Accreditation Council,  
P.O. Box 1075, Nagarbhavi Circle,  
Opp. To NSSIU, Bangalore – 560 072.
10. Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat,  
Chairman,  
University Grants Commission,  
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,  
New Delhi – 110 002.
11. Prof. R.A. Yadav,  
Chairman,  
All India Council For Technical Education,  
Chandralok Building, 7th floor,  
Janpath, New Delhi.
12. Prof. Vijay Khole,  
Vice Chancellor,  
University of Mumbai,  
M.G. Road, Fort Mumbai – 400 032.
13. Shri K. Ganesan,  
Secretary, Higher Education  
Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Fort St. George,  
Chennai – 600 009.
14. Dr. Ramdas M. Pai,  
Chancellor, Manipal University,  
Madhav Nagar, Manipal – 576 104,  
Udupi District, Karnataka State.
15. Prof. M. Ananda Krishnan,  
Former Vice-Chancellor,  
Anna University, 8/15,  
V Main Road, Madan Apartments,  
IInd Floor, Kasturibhai Nagar,  
Adyar, Chennai – 600 020.
16. Prof. M.S. Ananth  
Director, IIT, Madras,  
Chennai – 600 036.
17. Shri Pankaj Chandra,  
Director, I.I.M. Bangalore,  
Bannerghatta Road,  
Bangalore – 560 076.

18. Prof. Mushirul Hasan,  
Vice Chancellor,  
Jamia Millia Islamia,  
J/139, Utrakhand,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University,  
New Delhi – 67.
19. Dr. Subas Chandra Pani,  
Secretary, Planning Commission,  
Yojana Bhawan, Sansad Marg,  
New Delhi – 1.
20. Smt. Sushma Nath,  
Secretary (Expenditure), Department of Expenditure,  
North Block, New Delhi – 110 001.
21. Shri R.P. Agarwal,  
Education Secretary,  
Ministry of Human Resource Development,  
Deptt. of Higher Education,  
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 001.
22. Shri Sunil Kumar,  
Joint Secretary (Hr. Edn.) and Member Secretary to the Committee,  
Ministry of Human Resource Development,  
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 001.
23. Dr. Krishna Kumar,  
Director, NCERT,  
Shri Aurobindo Marg,  
New Delhi – 110 016.
24. Dr. Kiran Kamik,  
Former President, NASSCOM  
Q2A Haus Khas Enclave  
New Delhi-21

***Statement-II***

*The terms of reference of the Committee to advise on Renovation and  
Rejuvenation of Higher Education.*

- (a) To review the functioning of the UGC/AICTE and to critically assess the role of the UGC/AICTE and their preparedness to provide institutional leadership to the emerging demands of access, equity, relevant and quality of higher education/technical education and the university system.
- (b) To review the provisions of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 and the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 and various suggestions for

amendments to the said Acts by earlier Committees such as the Prof. Amreek Singh Committee.

- (c) The role of UGC in coordinating standards of higher education *vis-a-vis* the functional role of other statutory bodies such as AICTE, MCI, DCI, NCI, NCTE, DEC, etc.
- (d) An assessment of the requirements of autonomy of the UGC vis-a-vis the Central Government and that of the university system vis-a-vis the UGC.
- (e) The role of the UGC/AICTE in determining and enforcing standards of higher education/technical education in State Universities and the possibility of introducing a system of incentives and disincentives so that national standards of higher education/technical education not compromised or diluted.
- (f) Recommendations in regard to an effective and efficient mechanism for flow of resources from the UGC to the universities for their timely utilization including a mechanism of feedback thereto.
- (g) The requirement of transparency and efficiency in the functioning of the UGC/AICTE.
- (h) The role of the UGC vis-a-vis declaration of institutions to be deemed universities and recommendations for streamlining the process adopted by the UGC.
- (i) Recommendations about the need to change the eligibility criteria for becoming eligible to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act 1956.
- (j) Any other issue arising out of or relating to the above terms of reference and, the functioning of the UGC/AICTE which the Government or the Committee on its own, may desire to look into.

***Statement-III***

*The recommendations of the Committee to advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education.*

- (i) Creation of an all-encompassing National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER), a Constitutional body to replace the existing regulatory bodies including the University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE) and Distance Education Council (DEC) and to follow up the Constitutional amendment with an appropriate law for the Commission's functioning;
- (ii) Universities are to be made responsible regarding the academic content of all courses and programmes of study including professional courses. Professional bodies like the AICTE, NCTE, MCI, BCI, COA, INC, PCI etc. to be divested of their academic functions, which would be restored to the universities;

- (iii) Curricular reform should be the topmost priority of the newly created NCHER which would create a curricular framework based on the principles of mobility within a full range of curricular areas and integration of skills with academic depth;
- (iv) It should be mandatory for all universities to have a rich undergraduate programme and undergraduate students must get opportunities to interact with the best faculty. While appointing teachers to the universities their affiliation to a particular college should also be specified to emphasize the need for their exposure to undergraduate students;
- (v) Undergraduate programs should be restructured to enable students to have opportunities to access all curricular areas with fair degree of mobility. Normally, no single discipline or specialized university should be created;
- (vi) The vocational education sector is at present outside the purview of universities and colleges, and alienation of this sector can be overcome by bringing it under the purview of universities and by providing necessary accreditation to the courses available in polytechnics, industrial training institutions, and so on. Additionally barriers to entry into universities for students going through vocational training should be lowered to enable them upgrade their knowledge base at any stage of their careers.
- (vii) The NCHER should also galvanize research in the university system through the creation of a National Research Foundation;
- (viii) New governing structures should be evolved to enable the universities to preserve their autonomy in a transparent and accountable manner;
- (ix) Practice of according status of deemed university be stopped forthwith till the NCHER takes a considered view on it. It would be mandatory for all existing deemed universities to submit to the new accreditation norms to be framed on the lines proposed in the report within a period of three years failing which the status of university should be withdrawn. However, unique educational initiatives which have over a period of time enriched higher education by their innovations be given recognition and supported appropriately;
- (x) Modern higher education system requires extension facilities, sophisticated equipment and highly specialized knowledge and competent teachers. It would not be possible for every university to possess the best of these infrastructures. Hence, one of the primary tasks of the NCHER should be to create several Inter-University Centers (IUCs) in diverse fields to create the best of these possibilities and attract the participation of several institutions of higher learning to avail them;
- (xi) Institutions of excellence like the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) should be encouraged to diversify and expand their

scope to work as full-fledged universities, while keeping intact their unique features, which shall act as pace-setting and model governance systems for all universities;

- (xii) One of the first tasks of the NCHER should be to identify the best 1,500 colleges across India to upgrade them as universities, and create clusters of other potentially good colleges to evolve as universities;
- (xiii) Universities should establish live relationship with the real world outside and develop capacities to respond to the challenges faced by rural and urban economies and culture;
- (xiv) All levels of teacher education should be brought under the purview of higher education;
- (xv) A national testing scheme for admission to the universities on the pattern of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) should be evolved which would be open to all the aspirants of University education, to be held more than once a year. Students would be permitted to send their best test score to the university of their choice;
- (xvi) Quantum of Central financial support to State-funded universities should be enhanced substantially on an incentive pattern, keeping in view the needs for their growth;
- (xvii) Expansion of the higher education system should be evaluated and assessed continuously to excel and to respond to the needs of different regions in India in order to ensure not only equity and access but also quality and opportunity of growth along academic vertical. The NCHER too should be subject to external review once in five years.
- (xviii) A National Education Tribunal should be established with powers to adjudicate on disputes among stake-holders within institutions and between institutions so as to reduce litigation in courts involving universities and higher education institutions;
- (xix) A Task Force should be set up to follow up on the implementation of the recommended Agenda for Action within a definite time-frame.

#### **Objectives of Operation Black Board**

1105. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

- (a) the latest status of Operation Black Board scheme;
- (b) whether Government has discontinued the said scheme or it has been clubbed with any other scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has achieved the target of the Operation Black Board scheme;