

University of Delhi, admission to most of the courses of the University is made on the basis of the performance of candidates in the qualifying examination. However, Entrance Tests are conducted for some of the courses *e.g.* MBBS, BDS, B.E., M.D., M.S., D.M., M.Ch., M.A., M.Sc. M.Com., M.Tech., L.L.B., B.Ed., MBA etc.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. In order to become eligible to appear in the Entrance Test a candidate is required to have the prescribed percentage of marks in the qualifying examination.

Establishment of model degree colleges in Gujarat

1885. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formed a scheme of financial assistance by the Central Government for establishment of model degree colleges;

(b) whether the State Government of Gujarat has forwarded proposals for establishing such colleges in Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Kutch and Panchmahal districts in Gujarat; and

(c) if so, by when Government is going to release the grants for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) There is a proposal to launch a new scheme with Central-State funding for establishment of one model degree college in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the national level. According to the University Grants Commission, proposals for setting up one model college each in Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Kutch and Panchmahal districts have been received. Subject to approval of the Scheme, 200 colleges are proposed to be assisted during the remaining period of the Eleventh Plan, and selection of districts shall be based on evaluation of proposals in terms of relevant parameters.

Sweeping reforms in education system

1886. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to bring sweeping reforms in the education system throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the views of eminent educationists, State Governments and experts have been invited and examined before bringing reforms in the education system; 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 100 days programme announced by the Government includes major Legislative initiatives; Policy initiatives; and Administrative and other initiatives.

(c) and (d) Education is a subject on the Concurrent List of the Constitution, it is the shared responsibility of the both the Central and State Governments. The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) is the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education. Important issues pertaining to education are discussed in the CABE from time to time.

Access to higher education for all

1887. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of students seeking admission in the professional institutions of higher education in both Government and private sectors at graduate and post graduate levels;

(b) how many have been granted admission and how many refused among those during the year 2008-09;

(c) the policy of Government to provide opportunity to all those who are desirous of taking higher education within their affordable expenditure;

(d) whether Government agrees that the doors of higher education should not be closed to those who aspires to pursue higher studies; and

(e) if so, the plans therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mid-day Meal Scheme

†1888. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of amount is paid to the States by the Central Government under Mid-day Meal Scheme and whether State Governments also contribute in the scheme financially;

(b) whether the quality of this Mid-day Meal being provided to the children is also taken care of by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of increase in the percentage of students attending schools if any, due to Mid-day Meal Scheme, State-wise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.