

Self financing courses in Universities

*47. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission(UGC) recognized Central and State Universities are increasingly launching self-financing courses;
- (b) if so, whether such courses are recognized by the UGC;
- (c) whether the UGC has formulated guidelines for launching self-financing courses;
- (d) whether such guidelines also lay norms for the fee chargeable from the students; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Central Universities and State Universities enjoy autonomy in academic matters under the respective legislative Acts and are free to launch courses, including self financing courses, leading to any degree so notified the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 or any diploma or certificate of such nomenclature to be decided by the concerned University.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Non-performing Assets of Banks

*48. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in view of global financial meltdown, the bankers have expressed concern that Non-performing Assets (NPAs) are likely to go up during 2009-10;
- (b) if so, whether the bankers are not recovering the NPAs;
- (c) whether Government has chalked out any strategy to recover NPAs and to ensure that banks' NPAs do not increase during 2009-10; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government has not received any communication from banks expressing concerns that their non-performing assets (NPAs) are likely to go up during the year 2009-10.

(b) to (d) The banks manage their NPAs any effect recoveries in these accounts in accordance with their recovery policies and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines which, *inter-alia*, include prudential norms for provisioning and classification of NPAs, guidelines for prevention of slippages, Corporate Debt Restructuring and other restructuring Schemes, One Time Settlement schemes, the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions (DRT)

Act, 1993. By utilizing these channels of recovery, the scheduled commercial banks have been able to reduce their Gross NPAs from Rs. 64,898 crore on 31.03.2004 to Rs. 56,435 crore as on 31.03.2008, despite increase in their Gross Advances from Rs. 9,02,027 crore to Rs. 25,07,885 crore during this period. The Gross NPAs to Gross Advances ratio of the scheduled commercial banks has come down from 7.2% as on 31.03.2004 to 2.3% as on 31.03.2008. However, during the year 2008-09 the Gross NPAs as per RBI's provisional offsite returns, have increased to Rs. 66,962 crore and the Gross NPAs to Gross Advances ratio has marginally increased to 2.4%.

This Government is ensuring that the targets of Gross NPAs, set by the Public Sector Banks in their 'Statement of Intent on Annual Goals' for 2009-10, are such that they strive to contain the level of their Gross NPAs within acceptable limits.

Rural Water Supply Programme

*49. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to complete 'Rural Water Supply Programme by 2011; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) Rural drinking water supply is one of the components under Bharat Nirman. The targets for the four year period (2005-06 to 2008-09) for this component were coverage of 55,067 uncovered and 3,31,604 slipped-back habitations, and addressing 2,16,968 quality-affected habitations. State-wise targets and achievements are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Against 55,067 un-covered habitations to be covered during the Bharat Nirman period, 54,433 habitations have been covered by 29 June, 2009. The remaining 634 habitations will be covered by 2011.

The target of 3,31,604 slipped-back habitations has been exceeded. The habitations slip back due to many reasons such as sources going dry, lowering of the ground water table, systems outliving their lives, increase in population resulting in lower per capita availability, etc. The figures for slipped back habitations are therefore dynamic. The entire strategy and focus of the Department and its current programme in the field is towards sustainability in all drinking water schemes, so that the phenomenon of recurring slippage does not occur.

Of the 2,16,968 quality affected habitations, in case of 46,344 habitations potable water is being supplied through completed projects. The remaining habitations targeted under Bharat Nirman and subsequent new habitations are being tackled through projects either ongoing or approved and to be started shortly. An effort will be made to complete these projects by 2011. State-wise number of habitations covered and those being addressed is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Financial assistance from the Central Government beyond 2011 will be provided primarily to the Panchayati Raj Institutions.