(IIITs) in different States of the country during the XIth Plan period under Public Private Partnership mode.

(d) It is proposed to upgrade the infrastructure facilities in one polytechnic in each of the 177 Specially Identified Districts in the country. Out of these,8 districts are in Chhattisgarh.

## Poor attendance in MCD primary schools

3364. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

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

- (a) whether with the continuous erosion of faith of the parents in MCD primary schools, which serve as feeders to Government schools (classes VI to X/XII) and Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya, the details of measures taken to ensure maximum attendance in MCD primary schools;
- (b) whether Government seek professional expert opinion in this regard or think of pilot project with the help of private run schools so that standard of education of municipal schools could be gradually improved; and
- (c) whether any comperative study has been made of extremely low attendance in few schools, out of large number of primary schools, run by MCD and any specific causes identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) MCD provides various incentives like free uniform cloth, jerseys, school bags, shoes, text books and cooked food to improve attendence in MCD primary schools. It also organises trainining programmes for teachers with a view to achieve the target of universalisation of primary education. Various initiatives have been taken for making education a joyful and purposeful.

- (b) There is no such proposal under consideration by MCD.
- (c) MCD has reported that no such comparative study has been done