

Drop-out rate of students

3917. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

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

- (a) the current drop-out rate of students of 14 to 18 years age group in comparison to 50 per cent drop-out rate in 6 to 14 years age group;
- (b) how much students of 14 to 18 years age group are unable to get or continue education;
- (c) the reasons behind school drop-out—economical, social or any other; and
- (d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the drop-out of students particularly for 14 to 18 years age group who are interested to continue education but are unable due to economical and social conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The dropout rate of students of class I-X is 56.81 per cent in comparison to drop out rate of 43.03 per cent of students of class I-VIII during the year 2007-08 (provisional). The dropout rate for class IX-XII is not calculated.

(c) The socio-economic and school related factors affect dropout rate.

(d) Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Model Schools at Secondary level, Girls' hostels, National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship and National scheme of incentive to Girls for Secondary Education are some of the major programmes launched by the Ministry to check the dropout rate of students in the age group of 14 to 18 years.

Cost of education in foreign universities in the country

†3918. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has given its approval in principle to establish and run foreign universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the study in these universities will be so expensive that majority of people in the country will not have access to it; and
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard and Government's reaction to such expensive education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India has been approved by the Government for introduction and a notice thereof has been sent to Parliament. Provisions of the Bill can take effect only subject to approval of Parliament.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.