

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the University of Delhi, the University proposes for a multipronged approach to meet with additional seats in colleges as well as to maintain the quality of higher education. This, *inter-alia*, includes opening of new colleges and construction of new building for colleges housed in school buildings, creation of more seats in colleges by creating additional facilities and improving the reach of higher education by strengthening the campus of open learning.

Promotion of Urdu language

†2433. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any plan for giving promotion and recognition to Urdu language under article 345 and 347 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this plan is likely to be prepared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of teachers in NVs and KVs

2434. SHRI O. T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge shortage of trained teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, school-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage in these Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The percentage of vacancies of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is 12% and that in Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti is 10%.

(c) The vacant posts are being filled up through direct recruitment as well as through promotion. It is a continuous process. Apart from this, teachers are also engaged on part time contractual basis.

Financial assistance to States

2435. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance granted to the various States of the country particularly to Sikkim State under Centrally sponsored schemes of Information and Communication Technology at Government schools and colleges during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken to utilise the amount allocated under the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Scheme of Information and Communication Technology at Schools has been launched by merging the erstwhile schemes of Educational Technology (ET) and revised Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS). As the Scheme of Information and Communication Technology at Schools was launched on 15th December 2004, no financial assistance could be released during the financial year 2003-04 & 2004-05. The details of financial assistance granted to various States/UTs during the financial year 2005-06 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) It is the concern of the respective State Governments to utilise the amount allocated under the Scheme. Reminders have been sent to the State Governments/UTs to utilise the fund meant for the purpose.