

Protection of interests of students of deemed universities

2192. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to not allow any further expansion of the deemed universities which have been black listed by the Central review panel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such deemed universities are luring the aspirant students to enroll themselves and hurting the interests of students; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to protect the interests of students from such dubious institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In view of public perception regarding dilution in academic standards in certain institutions which were declared as 'deemed-to-be-universities', Government ordered a review of the functioning of such institutions by eminent academics. The Review Committee found 44 institutions unfit to continue as 'deemed-to-be-universities'. The matter is currently *sub judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Viplav Sharma vs. Union of India [WP (C) No. 142 of 2006].

Accordingly, Government has decided not to allow any further expansion of the institutions deemed to be universities referred to above on consideration *inter alia* of quality/standards of education till the outcome of the above Writ Petition, and *status quo* is being maintained.

Non-lapsable fund to finance secondary and higher education

2193. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up a non-lapsable fund to finance secondary and higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the fund sources planned by Government for creation of this fund;

(c) whether Government has already imposed secondary and higher education cess to finance elementary, secondary and higher education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A cess @ 1% on central taxes, called the "Secondary and Higher Education Cess", was levied through the Finance Act, 2007 to fund secondary and higher education. The proceeds of this cess will be kept in the non-lapsable pool in the Public Account.

Existing and proposed universities and colleges in Rajasthan

2194. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing universities and colleges and new ones which Central Government is planning to open in Rajasthan;

(b) the time by when they would be opened; and

(c) the details of their locations, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to University Grants Commission (UGC), there are 37 universities & 260 colleges recognized under section 2(f) and 12-B of the UGC Act, 1956 in Rajasthan as on 31.7.2010 which includes one Central University at Jaipur set up in 2009. Under the Ministry's scheme of setting up of model degree college's in each of 374 identified higher educationally backward districts (EBDs) having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) less than national GER, 30 such districts have been identified in Rajasthan, which are Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittaurgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dhaulpur, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalor, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunun, Jodhpur, Karauli, Nagaur, Pali, Rajasamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirahi, Tonk and Udaipur.

CBI inquiry into malpractices in AICTE

2195. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: