

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Pursuant to the enforcement of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the additional requirement of Teachers and Head Teachers in elementary education has been estimated at 5.08 lakh and 2.44 lakh respectively. In addition, it is estimated that there are 5.23 lakh teacher vacancies in the State sector. As per RTE Act, 2009 all these vacancies are required to be filled up within a period of three years to achieve the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) prescribed under the Act.

Setting up of sanctioned IITs

2972. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of IITs sanctioned by Government recently;
- (b) the present stage of implementation of each of them;
- (c) whether Government of Kerala has requested for an IIT in Kerala;
- (d) whether Government proposes to accede to the request of Kerala; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Government of India has set up eight new IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh (Indore), Punjab, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh during the XIth Five Year Plan. All of them have started functioning from temporary campuses.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. There is no proposal to establish an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Kerala. The entire budget allocation for IITs during the XIth Five Year Plan has already been allocated for the above 8 new IITs.

Setting up of world class universities

2973. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after more than 60 years of independence there is not a single university from the country that ranks in the world top 100 universities;

(b) if so, whether Government will propose to set up at least ten world class universities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir, despite having one of the largest higher education systems in the world, only a few institutions of higher learning in the country have been able to make a mark on the global stage.

(b) It is proposed to establish 14 innovation universities aimed at world class standards during the 11th and 12th Plan periods.

(c) The concept note on these universities has already been prepared and the legislative proposal in this regard is being finalized.

Subsidy on diesel

2974. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is actively considering to provide relief to farmers from the enhanced diesel prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this relief would be in form of direct subsidy on diesel to farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has informed that, at present, there is no proposal under their consideration for providing subsidy to farmers, subsequent to increase in the retail selling price of diesel effective from 26.6.2010.