

(b) whether Government has also asked State Governments to identify land and suitable locations for these new institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response from the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) do not arise.

Propagation of Sanskrit language

3436. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government for propagation of Sanskrit language;

(b) the new plans to be taken up by Government for further propagation of Sanskrit language; and

(c) the details of funds allocated for the said purpose during each of the last five years along with the funds released and spent therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Government is already propagating Sanskrit Language through its three deemed Central Sanskrit Universities, viz. *Rashtriya* Sanskrit Sansthan (RSKS), New Delhi, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri *Rashtriya* Sanskrit Vidyapeeth (SLBSRSV), New Delhi and *Rashtriya* Sanskrit Vidyapeeth (RSV), Tirupati

RSKS is implementing several schemes for propagation of Sanskrit. These include Financial Assistance to Voluntary Sanskrit Organizations and Institutions; All India Sanskrit Elocution Contest; *Sashtra* Chudamani Scheme; Vocational Training Scheme; Presidential award of certificate of honour to Scholars; Production of Sanskrit Literature; bulk purchase of books; Financial assistance to Institutions recognized as *Adarsh* Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan; award of Research and Post Matric Scholarship; grant of Samman Rashi to eminent Sanskrit Pundits in indigent circumstances; financial assistance to NGOs/Universities; grant for Modern Teachers working in Sanskrit Pathshalas; grant to Secondary/High Schools.

The RSV, Tirupati is implementing various schemes like offering regular courses from *Prak* Sastri (+2) to *Vachaspati* (D. Litt.); some courses on Distance Education mode; introduction of innovative and career oriented programmes both in Graduate and Post Graduate levels; adopting sinking Sanskrit Institutions in the country; publishing books, journals, magazines, news letters in and on Sanskrit; preparing e-materials like CDs, self learning kits and other audio video documents.

SLBSRSV is conducting teaching of Sanskrit on traditional lines at Graduate, Post-Graduate and Research levels; teachers' training courses at Graduate and Post Graduate levels;

enrich collection of manuscripts, edit and publish rare manuscripts and books of special importance.

(b) The existing schemes comprehensively cover all the areas for propagation of Sanskrit.

(c) The details of fund allocated for the said purpose during each of the last five year along with the funds released and spent are as under :—

(Rupees in lakh)

Year	RSKS, New Delhi		SLBSRSV, New Delhi		RSV, Tirupati	
	Fund Allocated and released	Fund spent	Fund Allocated and released	Fund spent	Fund Allocated and released	Fund spent
2005-2006	3207.00	3207.00	709.81	643.38	506.50	511.72
2006-2007	4414.00	4414.00	997.97	998.56	559.12	617.80
2007-2008	5219.67	5219.67	1054.84	983.83	709.90	728.85
2008-2009	6224.00	6224.00	1870.14	1152.00	1039.63	979.86
2009-2010	8510.00	8510.00	1703.06	1957.22	1431.90	1568.65

Involvement of NGOs in preparation and distribution of Mid-Day-Meal

3437. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is considering to involve NGOs in the preparation and distribution of Mid-Day-Meal in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this direction, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated to State of Maharashtra under the said scheme over the last three years, district-wise; and

(d) whether some NGOs/organisation have been identified under the said scheme for Maharashtra and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The overall responsibility to provide nutritious cooked meal to children under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) lies with the State/UT Government. Under the Guidelines of the MDMS, the State/UT may assign the responsibility of cooking mid day meal, its distribution, capacity building, monitoring, evaluation and research to NGOs fulfilling the conditions laid down in the Guidelines. The extent of involvement of NGO in these aspects of MDM depends on the policies of States/UTs in this regard.