Grant of minority character to universities

643. SHRI SABIR ALI: SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

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

- (a) the details of delegations that met him during the last two years and the current year, so far, in respect of grant of minority character to the Aligarh Muslim University and the Jamia Millia Islamia;
 - (b) the points put forth by such delegations;
 - (c) the response of Government thereto; and
 - (d) the Government's thinking at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The question as to whether or not an institution enjoys minority status is determined by the provisions of the Act/Statutes/Memorandum of Association establishing that institution. Perusal of the background leading to the legislations conferring full-fledged statutory University status on the Aligarh Muslim University and the Jamia Millia Islamia in the year 1920 and 1988, respectively, and the various provisions of the relevant Act that have direct bearing on the issue of the Minority status thereof, reveal that the legislative intent of the AMU Act, as amended from time to time, was to accord the minority status to that institution. The question relating to the minority status of Aligarh Muslim University is pending before the Supreme Court, while that of Jamia Millia Islamia is pending before the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions.

Right to Education

†644. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to make a law to provide right to education to all;
- (b) whether it is a fact that amount to be spent on this is to be borne by Centre and the States in the ratio of fifty-fifty;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that State Governments have given proposal that the entire amount be borne by the Central Government; and
 - (d) if so, by when a decision would be taken on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 enacted by the Parliament provides for free and compulsory

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. The RTE Act has come into force from 1st April, 2010. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme shall be the main vehicle for implementation of the RTE Act. The existing funding pattern between Centre and States is in the ratio of 65:35 for first two years of the Eleventh Plan, 60:40 for the third year, 55:45 for the fourth year and 50:50 thereafter. In respect of North East States the funding pattern is in the ratio of 90:10. A revised funding pattern is under consideration.

State Resource Centres

645. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that National Literacy Mission (NLM) has set up 26 State Resource Centres (SRCs) across the country with the aim of providing academic and technical resource support to the State Governments under the adult and continuing education programmes called Saakshar Bharat Programme;
- (b) if so, the details of these SRCs and the nature of support extended by Government to these SRCs during the last three years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has stopped financial assistance to SRC Shillong from the financial year 2010-11; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. National Literacy Mission has not set up any State Resource Centres in the country. However, under the Scheme of Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education and Skill Development, financial assistance is extended to voluntary agencies for setting up of State Resource Centres (SRCs). The list of State Resource Centres sanctioned, as on date, is given in Statement (See below). State Resource Centres were eligible to receive annual financial assistance upto Rs. 60.00 lakhs for category 'A' and Rs. 40.00 lakhs for category 'B'. With effect from 1.1.2009, the financial assistance has been enhanced to Rs. 100.00 lakhs for category 'A' and Rs. 70.00 lakhs for category 'B'.

(c) and (d) The Guidelines for Management, Planning and Operation of the SRCs *inter alia* provide that such centres which are already functioning under the aegis of Universities need to be brought under the aegis of registered voluntary agencies. Further, assistance under the Scheme of Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education and Skill Development which has become implementable with effect from 1.4.2009 is extended only to such Public charitable Trusts, not-for profit companies registered under Section 25-C of Companies Act, and registered Societies as would meet the eligibility criteria fixed by the Government of India. Since SRC Shillong does not meet this eligibility, financial assistance to the SRC has been kept in abeyance.