

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Economic empowerment of women is one of the policy prescriptions envisaged in the National Policy for the Empowerment, 2001 in order to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women.

(b) As per Census 2001, the Work Participation Rate (WPR) for females is 25.6% against the overall WPR of 39.2%.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, for bringing equality in the right to inheritance to Hindu Mitakshara coparcenary property and the right of Hindu women in asking for partition of dwelling house wholly occupied by the members of her family, a Bill titled the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2004 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 20.12.2004.

(d) Does not arise.

Fee structures for professional courses

1256. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC has recommended any fixed fee structures for various professional courses in the private unaided deemed universities last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any private unaided universities of Maharashtra have not followed the U.G.C. fee structure; and

(d) if so, the name of such institutions and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), it has recommended the following fee structure, for the academic year 2004-05, for various professional courses conducted by unaided institutions which are Deemed to be Universities:—

Name of the Course	UGC recommended fee structure (Rs.) p.a.
MBBS/MD/MS/MDS	1,30,000/-
BDS	1,00,000/-
MBA	50,000/-
B.E./B.Tech/B. Arch./B. Pharma./	40,000/-
M.E./M.Tech./M. Arch./M. Pharma.	

It has been brought to the notice of the UGC that Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (Deemed University) Mumbai and Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, (Deemed University) Navi Mumbai and Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences, (Deemed University) Loni, Distt. Ahmednagar are not following the fee structure recommended by the UGC:

The State Ministers of Higher and Technical Education, in the conference held at Bangalore on January 10-11, 2005 arrived at a broad consensus on the need for Central Legislation for regulating admission and fee structures in institutions deemed to be universities and private self-financing institutions. A draft legislation has been prepared for vetting by the concerned Departments and subsequent circulation among stakeholders and all the State Governments to elicit their views in this regard.

Drug abuse among school children

1257. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working on a plan to control drug abuse among school children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of this problem among the school-going children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Government of India in collaboration with the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime conducted a national survey on extent, pattern and trends and drug abuse in India. The age group of the sample survey was between