

(a) whether in view of recent media reports about mushrooming of private universities, the Ministry has taken note of this situation in Himachal Pradesh and other States regarding exact number of such private universities in different fields of study in existence;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any strict guidelines are in place to monitor quality of these institutions, including provisions to regulate fee structure, accountability, entry procedure, examination systems and minimum requirements of faculty, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) States are empowered to establish universities, including those not funded by the public exchequer (private universities) under entry 32 of List-II of 7th Schedule in the Constitution. Universities, including private universities established by State legislatures come under the provisions of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 and are regulated by UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003.

Enrolment of SC women in higher education

1189. DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to UGC report the enrolment ratio of SC women in the country is only 3.16 per cent for higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) has reported that on the basis of information available, in respect of 73 Universities for the year 2008-09, the enrolment percentage of women SC students against total students' enrolment (Men + women) was 5.29% and 11.24% against total women students' enrolment (including all level courses like

undergraduate, postgraduate, M.Phil, Ph.D & Diploma/Certificate Courses). Details of available information are given below :

(i)	Students enrolment (Men + Women)	:	2164920
(ii)	Women students out of total (i) above	:	1003002
(iii)	SC women students out of total students	:	114633 (5.29%)
(iv)	Percentage of SC women students out of total women students	:	11.42%

(c) In order to ensure wider coverage and access, a substantial increase in Plan allocation has been made in XIth Plan, for the expansion of higher education, by way of setting up of new institutions such as Central Universities in un-covered States, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, and Schools of Planning and Architecture etc. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) to incentivize States to set up new State Universities/Colleges as well as strengthen existing Universities and Colleges has been approved by the National Development Council for XIth Plan. This scheme envisages setting up of institutions preferably in locations predominately inhabited by SCs/STs/educationally backward minorities so as to address concerns of equity. Similarly, a scheme has also been launched for assisting States to establish model degree colleges in 374 districts having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) less than national GER. In addition, Government provides financial assistance through UGC, towards Post Doctoral Fellowship for Women, Post-Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarship Scheme for Girls, Development of Centres for Women's Studies in Universities and Colleges, assistance for Womens' Hostels for Colleges, Capacity Building of Women Managers in Higher Education and Establishment of Day Care Centres in Colleges. Further the Government provides Junior Research Fellowships under Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships as well as post-doctoral fellowship for SC/ST candidates through the UGC which can be availed by women.

Vocational education under NPE

1190. DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: