

(e) if so, the figures thereon for last three financial years, year-wise; and

(f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) No centralized data is being maintained in regard to colleges under State Universities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

IPR cells in universities

138. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC is likely to set up 50 Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) cells in universities to patent discoveries on campuses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the University Grants Commission (UGC) has decided to support establishment of five IPR Cells in five Universities located in five different regions.

Enrolment in schools

139. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey conducted by the Indian Market Research Bureau has revealed that 6.94 per cent of all children aged between 6 and 13 years are not enrolled in schools across rural and urban areas;

(b) whether according to the survey, the bulk of these children estimated at 1.2 crores belong to SC/ST communities;

(c) whether despite Government achieving the enrolment targets for formal elementary education through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the retention rate has been low; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the survey, out of 134.6 lakh children in the age group of 6-13 years who are out of school, 47.5 lakh children (35.3%) belong to SC/ST communities.

(c) As per National Education Statistics for 2003-04 the retention rate for both boys and girls in the age group of 6-13 years is approximately 69%.

(d) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) seeks universalisation of elementary education as well as universal retention by 2010. SSA provides for several varieties of interventions like incentives, focus on girls and weaker sections of society and to improve quality of education in schools to retain more children in schools. The Mid-day Meal Programme is an important factor for the purpose, also.

Resources for higher education

140. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have requested Planning Commission for more resources to fund higher education;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed expenditure in this regard; and

(c) the total amount being sought and the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Allocation of plan resources for higher education by the Planning Commission is subject to availability of financial resources and approval of the Budgetary provisions by Parliament. The approved size of the 10th Plan for higher education was Rs. 4176.50 crores. During the years