

Proposal for establishing Model Degree Colleges in Gujarat

704. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of the State Government of Gujarat regarding establishment of Model Degree Colleges in the State has been received by UGC/Union Government; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. According to available information, 20 proposals have been received by University Grants Commission from Gujarat.

(b) While 8 proposals have been approved, 01 (One) has been rejected on grounds of ineligibility. 11 proposals have been referred back to the Gujarat Government seeking additional documents.

Innovation Universities

705. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the concept of Innovation Universities aiming at World Class Standard has been finalized; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A legislative proposal for setting up Universities for Innovation aiming at world class standards in academics and research is under finalization.

Allocation of funds for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

706. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation of funds towards the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme over the past three years;

(b) whether the allocation for Mid-Day-Meal scheme is linked with the number of school-going children in the country;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the allocation for this year is sufficient considering the implementation of the

Right to Education Act, which is expected to significantly increase the number of school-going children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) A sum of Rs. 24,799 crores has been allocated for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme over the past three years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The allocation of funds for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme is based on the number of children studying in classes-I to VIII in Government and Government aided schools/institutions and the number of school days in a financial year.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Drop-out rate in some courses in JNU

707. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is heavy drop-out rate in JNU in BA (Hons.), MA, M.Sc and MCA courses;

(b) if so, whether JNU has analysed the reasons for such heavy drop-out rate in these courses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether CAG had indicated JNU for relaxing eligibility criteria in appointing Deputy Registrar and administrative employees and irregular promotion of certain employees;

(e) if so, the action taken in the matter by Government;

(f) whether 33 per cent posts of teachers are lying vacant in JNU; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to fill the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), there is drop out in some of the programmes. This drop out is due to some students leaving five years M.A. Integrated programme, either immediately after completing B.A. or after joining M.A. on getting job opportunities. Some other students leave the programme in mid course because they fail to fulfill the minimum requirements of Cumulative Grade Point Average.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The University has informed that no relaxation in eligibility criteria, except that of age in