

Setting up of Science Magnet Navodaya Schools

711. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when the Ministry proposed to set up 10 Science Magnet Navodaya (SMN) Schools with an estimated cost of Rs. 15-20 crores each;

(b) the details of places where the above schools proposed to set up;

(c) the details of institutions with whose collaboration the above SMN Schools planned to set up; and

(d) the progress of each of the above school?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is a proposal to set up 10 Residential Science Magnet schools with classes 9 to 12 so as to develop interest of talented students in basic science.

(b) to (d) The exact locations of the proposed schools and the monitoring scientific institutions have not been decided yet.

Vacant posts of trainers in Bihar

‡712. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the total number of posts of trainers in Bihar according to the report of Centre's District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) and the number of posts vacant out of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): According to the Annual Work Plan (2011-12) received from the Government of Bihar, the total number of sanctioned academic posts in the 24 DIETs in Bihar is 268, out of which, 136 posts are filled up and remaining 132 posts are vacant.

Identification of universities as Centres of Excellence

713. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many universities in the country have been identified by the university Grants Commission as Centres of Excellence;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise; and

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the rank of Indian Universities as far as qualification of NET is concerned in the last ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per details available from the University Grants Commission (UGC), in order to achieve excellence in teaching and research, UGC has been assisting identified universities by granting the status of “Centre with Potential for Excellence”.

(b) The State-wise details of Centre with Potential for Excellence are as given below:—

Sl. No.	State	Name of the University	Area of specialization to be developed
1.	Kerala	Cochin University of Science and Technology	Laser and Opto-electronic Science and Technology
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati	Traditional Shastras
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal University (Presently called as Rajiv Gandhi University)	Biodiversity
4.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	Punjab University	Biomedical Sciences
5.	Gujarat	Sardar Patel University	Applied Polymers
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh University	Himalayan Studies
7.	Karnataka	*Karnataka University	Polymer Chemistry
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Devi Ahilya University	e-Management Studies
9.	Punjab	Guru Nanak Development University	Sports Sciences
10.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai Kamraj University	Genomic Sciences
11.	Tamil Nadu	Anna University	Environmental Sciences
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad University	Behavioral Cognitive Sciences

*Out of above 12 Universities, Centre with Potential for Excellence at Karnataka University was discontinued.

- (c) No such ranking of Indian Universities is done.

**Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and
Innovative Education**

714. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education (EGS and AIE), which is meant to encourage alternative and innovative education;

(b) the total number of schemes that are operational as part of EGS and AIE, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the approved and released amounts for the various schemes till date, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provided support to alternate schooling facilities under its EGS and AIE component. EGS Centres were envisaged as a transitory measure to provide schooling to children in habitations unserved by a regular school, till such time that regular and full time schooling facilities were provided in the area. The RTE Act, 2009, which became operative on 1st April, 2010 provides that the appropriate Government shall establish a school in neighbourhood as defined in the State RTE rules within a period of three years from the commencement of the Act. The SSA norms have, therefore, been revised to correspond with the RTE Act. States have been advised to upgrade all EGS Centres to regular Primary Schools by March, 2012, and no new EGS Centres are being sanctioned with effect from 2010-11. AIE Centres are being reconceptualized as special training Centres for out of school children to ensure their age-appropriate enrollment and participation in regular elementary schools.

(c) Funds released to the States/UTs for EGS/AIE Centres since 2003-04, upto 2010-11 is provided in the Statement.