

Governments. In such cases, the Australian regulations provide for placement of international students in alternate courses or refund of admissible fees to the students.

(d) The Ministry does not maintain the data of students going abroad for studies. The Government is fully aware of the huge demand for higher education opportunities in the country and has initiated a host of reforms in the higher education sector, especially through establishing a number of new institutions and revamping the existing ones. Such steps will continue to receive top priority in the coming years too.

#### **Progress of higher education**

695. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC has submitted its report to Government and indicated that there is a slowness in progress in the field of higher education specially by Central as well as State Governments;

(b) whether UGC has also indicated that there is a two-fold progress in the field of higher education by private sector compared to Government sector;

(c) if so, whether it would not deny higher education to the poor, who could not afford and go to private sector;

(d) whether Government has fixed any target during Twelfth Five Year Plan especially in higher education sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has submitted a Report of the Expert Committee on Public Private Partnership, to the Government. It has been stated therein that despite a massive increase in public investment, it would be difficult to meet the stated objectives of raising the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) to 15% by 2012.

(b) The report has acknowledged that there is an increasing trend of participation of the private sector in the higher education field.

(c) The report recommends that suitable Public Private Partnership (PPP) models should be adopted where both philanthropy and service to the community is combined with a reasonable surplus of higher education income by the partnership that could be built between public and private sector institutions/individual, so that the disadvantaged sections of the community are not deprived of access to higher education.

(d) and (e) The Eleventh Five Year Plan document aims at increasing the GER to 21% by the end of the Twelfth Plan with an interim target of 15% by 2011-12.