

(b) the number of private universities of Gujarat which have applied for recognition under section 2(f);

(c) how many of these applications have already been approved or disapproved; and

(d) by when the decision on remaining applications is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Section 2(f) of University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 defines "University" to mean a University established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act or a state Act, and includes any such institution as may, in consultation with the University concerned, be recognized by the Commission in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf under this Act. Any University established by an Act of State Legislature is therefore, automatically covered under the definition of "University".

(b) According to the information of University Grants Commission (UGC), there are 09 (nine) Private Universities in the State of Gujarat. All private universities are established by a State Act and as such they are already covered under section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956.

(c) and (d) In view of the above, there is no question of any approval and disapproval of private universities by the UGC.

Bringing pre-school education under RTE Act

†2073. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating the proposal to bring pre-school education system too under RTE Act in the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the successful implementation of RTE in the country before considering this proposal; and

(d) if so, the number of States where this has been successfully implemented?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The National Advisory Council (NAC) has recommended the addition of pre-primary section in all government schools. NAC has recommended that this will pave the way for examining, over time the feasibility of bringing pre-school learning under the purview of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Government has constituted a Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee under the chairpersonship of Shrimati D. Purandeswari, Minister of State for Human Resource Development to examine the matter and make appropriate recommendations. The Planning Commission has constituted an inter-Ministerial Group to examine various matters relating to re-structuring of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, including pre-school education.

(c) and (d) The RTE Act has come into force from 1st April, 2010. The norms of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is the main vehicle for implementation of the RTE Act, have been aligned with the RTE Act, and States/UTs are taking steps for implementing the Act.

Gross Enrolment Ratio

†2074. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the field of higher education in the country, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is nearly half to the world's average, two-third of developing countries average and one-fifth of the developed countries' average;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of India as compared to World Average and other Regions are given as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.
