7. Under the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarasas (SPQEM), a sum of Rs. 11173.35 lakh has been released to 4539 madarasas covering 11745 teachers and under the Scheme of Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes (IDMI), grant of Rs. 200.39 lakh has been released to 10 institutes during the year 2011-12 in Uttar Pradesh.

[18 May, 2012]

Need for comprehensive study of history

4756. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been felt that the study of India's history should be more comprehensive;
- (b) whether the sheer diversity of the country's identities underlines the complexities involved in writing national history;
- (c) whether it is a fact that broad based approach limits our understanding of our neighbourhood; and
 - (d) if so, the steps to be taken up by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes, Sir. The 72nd session of Indian History Congress (IHC) has emphasized the fact that study of India's history should be more comprehensive.

- (b) and (c) Yes, Sir. It was pointed out that the sheer diversity of the country's identities 4,635 communities, as put out by the Anthropological Survey of India underlined the complexities involved in writing national history and the need to study contemporary history beyond the traditional broad-brush paradigm of political history. The historians who write Indian history are required to take due care of the regional diversity, national diversity and the unifying factors as well; which will enable a more cogent and comprehensive study of Indian history.
- (d) To provide a broad based understanding to the students, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has reported that it has ensured that the course content of History strengthens their understanding and provides a foundation from which students' natural curiosity and capacity for further investigation will evolve and develop. Further, Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and IHC are also trying to ensure the same. "Comprehensive History of India" series of publications, which have replaced the Cambridge and Oxford series on Indian History, is a successful attempt to bring rigour to the discipline of History.