

- (a) whether it is a fact that it had been stated to constitute Higher Education Council in every State under the new Education Policy so that there may be convenience in setting up standards and co-ordination in higher education;
- (b) the number of States where Higher Education Councils have been set up;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government for setting up of the same where they have not been set up as yet; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (d) Education being in the "Concurrent List" of the VIIth Schedule of the Constitution, setting up of Higher Education Councils lies within the purview of the State Governments and it cannot be mandated by the Central Government.

Setting up Model Schools in Maharashtra

4723. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to start Model Schools in educationally backward blocks of Maharashtra under Centrally Sponsored Scheme to provide excellent education from Sixth to Twelfth standard in the 43 educationally backward blocks of the State;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government has requested to enhance the prescribed limit of Rs. 3.02 crore for construction of school buildings;
- (c) the reaction of the Central Government to the revised estimate proposal submitted by the State Government; and
- (d) the reasons for delay in releasing the funds by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government had submitted a proposal for setting up of 43 model schools in as many educationally backward blocks (EBBs) at a projected construction cost higher than the prescribed unit cost of Rs. 3.02 crore per school. The proposal was approved by this Ministry subject to the State Government either revising the cost estimate to bring it within the scheme norm or arranging additional funds from its own resources.

(d) Based on the revised plan submitted subsequently by the State Government, an amount of Rs. 29.27 crore towards Central share has been released in this regard.

Minimum eligibility criteria for Deemed Universities

†4724. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Deemed Universities in the country and the number out of these that do not fulfil even the minimum eligibility criteria and other conditions;

(b) whether Government would enquire that the Deemed Universities are fulfilling all the necessary eligibility criteria and other conditions before granting recognition to them;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) Government's policy with respect to those Deemed Universities that do not fulfil the minimum eligibility criteria and other conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) At present, there are 130 Deemed to be Universities in the country. The Review Committee of Academic Experts constituted by the Government to review the functioning of Institutions Deemed to be Universities placed 44 Institutions in Category-III which, neither on past performance nor on their promise for the future, have the attributes, to retain their status as "Deemed Universities".

(b) Yes, Sir. The status of Deemed to be University under Section 3 of University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 would be granted only if all conditions are satisfied as per UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The matter regarding the action against the 44 Deemed to be Universities placed in Category-III is presently sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

MDMS in Nagaland

4725. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.