

The Government has taken several initiatives to curb commercialization of education. Section 13 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 clearly prohibits collection of any capitation fee. As regards higher educational institutions, a legislative proposal namely “The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010” has already been introduced in the Parliament.

UGC has a scheme of supporting universities and colleges for carrier oriented courses. All Colleges and Universities recognized by the UGC under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956 are eligible for implementing the scheme of Career-Oriented Courses. This scheme is designed to ensure the graduates to undertake courses which have knowledge, skill and attitudes for employment in the wage sector in general and self employment in particular. The fees structure will depend upon the economic viability of the course.

Funds allotted to universities and colleges in Tamil Nadu

1954. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allotted by UGC to universities and colleges in Tamil Nadu in the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan periods;
- (b) the amount disbursed out of this allotment during the said Plan period; and
- (c) how many State Governments have fully implemented the UGC regulations and received the 80 per cent share of the expenses for the implementation of the Central Sixth Pay Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) has allocated Rs. 16509.74 lakh and Rs. 70626.19 lakh to Universities and Colleges in Tamil Nadu in the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan periods respectively. Rs. 10380.22 lakh and Rs. 58485.79 lakh have been released by UGC out of this allocation during the said plan periods respectively.

- (c) A scheme for revision of pay of teachers and equivalent cadres in all the Central Universities and Colleges thereunder and the Institutions Deemed to be Universities whose maintenance expenditure is met by the UGC has been notified on 31.12.2008 by the Central Government. This scheme is essentially for teachers in Central Educational Institutions, but could be extended to Universities, Colleges and other higher educational institutions coming under the purview of the State Government if the State Government of India has offered to State Governments to claim 80% reimbursement of UGC pay scale arrears if they adopt the scheme as a package including

enhancement of age of superannuation. So far no State has fulfilled all the conditions of the scheme and so no payment to any State Government has been made by the Government of India.

Teaching of Sanskrit in CBSE schools

1955. SHRI TARUN VIJAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of CBSE schools offering Sanskrit as an optional subject;
- (b) the number of students both in absolute and percentage terms, who appeared for Sanskrit in examinations of classes VIIIth and Xth;
- (c) whether Government rules require certain minimum number of students for Sanskrit to be offered as an optional subject;
- (d) if so, the number thereof; and
- (e) the number of teachers employed to teach Sanskrit in various Government schools under the CBSE pattern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) 8012 schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) offered Sanskrit as an optional subject in 2011. The number of students who appeared for Sanskrit Examination of class 10 in 2011 was 294471. CBSE being an examination conducting body for classes 10 and 12 does not maintain record of class 8 examination.

(c) and (d) No such requirement has been prescribed by the CBSE for its affiliated schools.

(e) CBSE affiliated schools maintain a students-teacher ratio of 40:1. School education is governed by the State school Education Act of respective state Government. Therefore, such data is not maintained at central level.

Grants for SSA given by United Kingdom

1956. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United Kingdom (UK) has provided grants to India for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during the past few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which such grants have been utilised;
- (c) whether the U.K. authorities have alleged that Government has misused the grants; and