

**Irregularities in recruitment of teachers in schools  
in Meghalaya**

2418. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI was asked to conduct an inquiry in Meghalaya to look into the irregularities in the recruitment of Assistant teachers in Government lower primary schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by CBI and Government in this regard;

(d) whether it is also a fact that F.I.R. has been lodged by various NGOs against those named in the CBI report on the alleged irregularities in the matter; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As per information received from the Government of Meghalaya, the CBI conducted an inquiry into the recruitment of assistant teachers in government lower primary schools. The CBI report was challenged in the Shillong Bench of the Guwahati High Court by the State Government. As per the direction of the Hon'ble High Court, a High level Scrutiny Committee has been notified by the State Government on 12th October, 2012 to ascertain the legality/basis of the selection of candidates.

**Establishment of Meta Universities**

†2419. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposals regarding expansion of technology in schools and establishment of Meta Universities;

(b) is so, by when these proposals would be cleared; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Schools" since December, 2004 (revised in 2010) to promote computer enabled learning and usage of ICT in Government and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools. Under the CSS, financial assistance is provided for ICT infrastructure including internet connectivity, teachers' salaries, teachers' training and development of e-content for ICT aided teaching and learning.

A Meta University has been established in Delhi by the Indian Institute of Technology (NT), Delhi, the Jamia Milia Islamia and the Delhi University to share learning resources by using the latest technologies to enable the students to benefit from the pooling of learning resources available in these institutions.

(b) and (c) The higher educational institutions being fully autonomous entities are free to collaborate and identify the courses/programmes to be offered in the Meta Universities, and no clearance from the Ministry of Human Resource Development is required for this purpose.

#### **Setting up of model schools**

2420. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan to build 2500 Model schools all over the country as enunciated in Prime Minister's Independence Day speech in 2007 has been completed; and

(b) if so, where have those schools been established and the details thereof, State-wise and name-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (b) The centrally sponsored scheme to set up 6,000 model schools at the rate of one school per block was launched in November, 2008. Out of these, 3,500 schools are to be set up in educationally backward blocks (EBBs) through State/UT Governments and the remaining 2,500 schools are to be set up under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in blocks which are not educationally backward.

Under the State sector component of the scheme, proposals to set up model schools in 2,973 blocks have been received from 24 States/UTs till 30.11.2012. Out