Establishment of polytechnics under PPP mode

4135. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided or proposes to establish polytechnics on Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details including the salient features thereof;
 - (c) whether Government has estimated the cost for the purpose; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government approved a scheme to provide financial assistance to set up 300 polytechnics under the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode during the Eleventh Plan Period. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) estimated the total cost to be Rs. 15.00 crores per polytechnic, excluding land. The scheme provides for Rs. 3.00 crores Central fund towards capital assets; Rs. 2.00 crores by the State Government and a minimum of Rs. 10.00 crores by the private partner. The land is to be provided by the private partner; alternatively the State will provide land. The response of the intended private partners was poor. Therefore, the AICTE has constituted a committee to revise the scheme for implementation during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Meeting targets set out under National Mission for Female Literacy

4136. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Mission for Female Literacy envisages all women to be literate by 2013-14; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to achieve the target across the States, particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No, Sir. The Government aims to achieve 80% literacy rate by 2017 and reduce the gender disparity to 10 percentile points during the same period.