

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005 prioritizes gender as an important guiding principle in all curricular areas. The focus Group Paper on Gender Issues in Education has mentioned that gender is an integral part of all disciplines offered to children at school stage. Gender concerns have been integrated in the curriculum and in the textbooks at an appropriate level. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to offer an elective course on 'Human Rights and Gender Studies' for classes XI and XII. This elective will be offered at pilot stage for CBSE affiliated schools in session 2013-14 and as a regular elective from session 2014-15 onwards.

Conversion of Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad into an IIT

102. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2424 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th December, 2012 and state:

(a) whether the proposal on conversion of Indian School of Mines (ISM) Dhanbad into an IIT was considered at the meeting of the Council of the IITs which was scheduled to be held on 7th January, 2013;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Council in this regard; and

(c) the time by when ISM, Dhanbad is likely to start operating as an IIT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposal for the conversion of the Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad, into an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) was discussed in the meeting of the Council of IITs held on 7th January, 2013 and it was decided that the proposal is to be examined by a Committee.

Opening of private universities in Odisha

103. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up private universities in Odisha;

(b) if so, the details of such new universities and those which have already been functioning in the State;

(c) the rules and regulations under which such universities are allowed to function in individual regions;

(d) whether Union Governments gives some kind of incentives for opening such universities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Private Universities are established in the country only by the Acts of the State Legislatures concerned. At present, there are only two Private Universities in Odisha established by the Acts of the State Legislature of Odisha. The list of private universities is available at the University Grants Commission (UGC) website www.ugc.ac.in.

(c) The criteria for establishment of Private Universities in Odisha are decided by the State Government of Odisha. However, these Universities are also required to maintain minimum standards as laid down by the UGC from time to time. The UGC has also issued UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 to regulate private universities.

(d) No, sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Toilet/drinking water facilities in elementary schools in Andhra Pradesh

104. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 75 percent of Government elementary schools have toilet facility and only 85 percent of Government elementary schools have drinking water facility in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only Rs. 80 crores were spent under SSA for this purpose in 2009-10 out of Rs. 550 crores and Rs. 936 crores out of Rs. 1500 crores in 2010-11; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such less utilization in the above mentioned years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) As per the District Information System for Education (DISE) 2011-12, 80.6% of Government elementary schools in Andhra Pradesh have toilets and 85.4% have drinking water facilities.