

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Goa	0	0	0	1
4	Haryana	0	2	0	1
5	Jharkhand	0	0	2	0
6	Karnataka	0	0	1	0
7	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	1	1
8	Maharashtra	0	0	0	1
9	Odisha	0	1	1	0
10	Punjab	0	0	1	0
11	Rajasthan	0	0	1	0
12	Uttarakhand	1	0	2	0
13	Uttar Pradesh	2	7	2	1
14	West Bengal	1	0	2	1
TOTAL		4	16	15	6

Mushrooming of private educational institutions

†46. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last few years private educational institutions have grown like mushrooms;

(b) if so, whether Government has any mechanism to ensure that infrastructural facilities are available with these institutions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of steps likely to be taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Private Universities are established by

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Acts of the State Legislatures concerned. At present, there are 164 Private Universities in the country. During the last five years, 117 Private Universities have been established by different State Governments. The State-wise list of Private Universities is available at the University Grants Commission (UGC) website www.ugc.ac.in.

(b) to (d) Private Universities are regulated by the UGC as per the provisions contained in the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003.

These Private Universities are inspected by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees constituted by the UGC which include representatives from the concerned Statutory Council(s). These Expert Committees visit the Private Universities to assess the fulfillment of minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down by the UGC and other concerned Statutory Bodies. The reports of the Expert Committees are placed before the Commission for consideration and the Private Universities are asked to submit compliance reports in respect of the observations/suggestions of the Expert Committees. The compliance reports are examined by the UGC and again placed before the Commission for consideration.

Female literacy rate in Bihar

47. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the female literacy rate in Bihar is the lowest among the States in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes any special measures to improve literacy rate to bring it at par with the national average; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes, Sir. A table showing State-wise female literacy rates as per census 2011 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The Government has launched Saakshar Bharat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, to raise literacy levels, in the age group of 15 years and above. The programme primarily focuses on women. All the 38 Districts of Bihar are covered under the programme. The Government has also enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 to raise the literacy level in the age group of 6-14 years which is universally applicable including to the State of Bihar.