Separate university for Leh-Ladakh region

- 65. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there could a separate University for Leh-Ladakh region considering the geographical situation and difficult terrain;
- (b) whehter it is a fact that because of bad weather the construction work of Leh-Ladakh, schools and colleges could not be completed in time; and
- (c) whether Government could consider to release the fund in one instalment instead of releasing the fund twice in a year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present. Two Central Universities are already in existence in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. In addition, two satellite university campuses of the State University of Kashmir have been sanctioned for both Leh and Kargil districts. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has released an amount of Rs. 2662.65 lacs towards the establishment of these campuses (Rs. 1369.59 lacs for the Leh campus and Rs 1293.16 lacs for the Kargil campus). Two Model Degree Colleges at Nobra (Leh) and Zanskar (Kargil) have also been sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the financial year 2011-12.

- (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by the State Government, some delays in construction work have taken place on account of bad weather.
- (c) Funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes are released as per the terms and conditions of each scheme as approved by the Competent Authority. The UGC has reported that it has its own process for the release of funds which depends upon the progress of utilization.

Decrease of students in Government schools and colleges

- SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of students in Government colleges, Higher Secondary schools, Primary schools are decreasing day by day and the number of students in private schools and colleges are increased, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) whether Government could open at least two Kendriya Vidyalayas up to 12th Standard in every block of the country as these schools are very popular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) The comparative data requested is not maintained by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. However, there is no evidence of decrease enrolment in schools run by this Ministry, i.e. 1094 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and 586 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), through out the country. The KVs provide education from nursery to 12th standard and the JNVs from class-VI to Class-XII. Both the organizations have a limited intake of students for each class. But the number of applicants seeking admission is