

Promotion of higher education

665. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is making efforts to promote higher education system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any eligibility criteria has been fixed to be followed by private institutions with regard to maintaining the standards in higher education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the Eleventh Plan period, the Government has established 16 Central Universities, 8 Indian Institute of Technology (IITs), 7 Indian Institute of Management (IIMs), 3 Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), 10 National Institute of Information Technology (NIITs) and 2 School of Planning and Architecture (SPAs). The University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the two main regulatory bodies under the Department of Higher Education, not only regulate the quality but also provide grants to the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). The Department is also implementing several Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and Central Sector Schemes to promote higher education. As a result of the expansion of institutions and the increase in institutional capacity of existing institutions, the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of the country has increased to 18.8% in 2010-11 from 11.5% in 2005-06, indicating an annual increase of 6.45 percentage points.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. UGC has framed the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 under which all Private Institutions in the country are regulated. The Private institutions have to fulfill specified minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down from time to time by the UGC/ Statutory Bodies to ensure that requisite standards in higher education are met. Similarly private colleges are regulated by different regulatory bodies controlling the specific disciplines, viz, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE),

the Council of Architecture (CoA), the Medical Council of India (MCI), the Dental Council of India (DCI) etc.

Setting up of NUSRL campus at Ranchi

666. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the villagers of Nagri have been protesting against the setting up of the Campus of National University of Study and Research in Law (NUSRL) at Nagri Village, Ranchi since 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for resistance from villagers; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to protect the right of the villagers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As informed by the Government of Jharkhand, the residents of Nagri were protesting against the amount of compensation paid for the acquisition of their land by the State Government for setting up the National University of Study and Research in Law (NUSRL) and the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ranchi. The Government of Jharkhand had acquired 63.76 acres and 76.74 acres respectively for the two institutions in Nagri village. The matter was under litigation and the High Court of Jharkhand *vide* its order dated 26.04.2011 ordered additional payment to the tune of 15% of the compensation already paid. The Government of Jharkhand has already paid the additional amount ordered by the High Court to some of the affected persons. The Special Leave Petition filed by some other affected persons against the order of the High Court was dismissed by the Supreme Court on 28.06.2012.

(c) The villagers are unwilling to part with the agricultural land since it is the only source of their livelihood.

(d) As informed by the Government of Jharkhand, the matter now stands resolved by relocating the IIM Ranchi from Nagri village to Mouja-Chedi. The construction of the building for the NUSRL has accordingly commenced.