Expert committee on endangered languages

688. PROF. MRINAL MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an Expert Committee was constituted by the University Grants Commission to make recommendations to the Commission on preservation and promotion of endangered languages in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Committee included setting up of specialised centres in central universities to undertake research into different aspects of endangered languages; and
- (c) if so, the steps that Government and UGC have taken with regard to this recommendation of this Committee?

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

(c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed this Ministry that it has formulated the guidelines for Centres for Endangered Languages to be established in the Central Universities and invited proposals from them. In response, 13 Central Universities have submitted their proposals. In addition, the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore, a subordinate office of this Ministry, is implementing the Scheme for Preservation and Protection of Languages spoken by less than 10,000 people during the current Five Year Plan through the documentation of their linguistic features which includes various activities like preparation of grammars, dictionaries, encyclopaedias, collection and publication of folklores, etc.

Regulator for technical and management institutes

- 689. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government has formulated a new regulator for technical and management institutes *viz*. Indian Board of Accreditation (IBA);
- (b) if so, the details of difference between the function, objectives and parameters of IBA and National Board of Accreditation (NBA) under AICTE;
 - (c) the reasons which compelled Government to constitute IBA; and
 - (d) the corrective steps taken by Government in the matter?

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

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Mismanagement and irregularities in central universities

690. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has ordered any enquiry by setting up committee or writing to Vice Chancellors in the central universities for the mismanagement and irregularities committed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise during the last three years and the reports received and implemented, so far; and