

2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 were of Rs. 694.13 crore, Rs. 1450.76 crore, Rs. 1739.28 crore and Rs. 351.32 crore respectively.

The PAB-approved the total outlay of Rs. 1736.14 crore, Rs. 4376.41 crore, Rs. 3372.48 crore and Rs. 2808.75 crore during 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively under the SSA for Aridhra Pradesh. Out of these, the Government of India released Rs. 810.00 crore, Rs. 1835.52 crore and Rs. 1360.49 crore to Andhra Pradesh during 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 respectively under the SSA to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. So far the Andhra Pradesh SSA has been released Rs. 675.16 crore during 2013-14. The released amounts were used for all the activities undertaken as part of the SSA including that of civil works.

Setting up of new universities of world class standards

1775. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to set up new universities aimed at attaining the world class standards in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the locations identified for the purpose;
- (c) whether the concept for these universities has been finalized, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when these universities would start functioning?

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

(b) The Central Government has tentatively identified 14 places/locations for establishment of such universities in the public funded mode at Amritsar (Punjab), Greater Noida (Uttar Pradesh), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Patna (Bihar), Guwahati (Assam), Kolkata (West Bengal), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Kochi (Kerala), Gandhi Nagar (Gujarat), Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu), Mysore (Karnataka), Pune (Maharashtra), Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Bhubaneswar (Odisha).

(c) Yes, Sir. The concept of world class universities has been further developed and it has now been decided to call them Universities for Research and Innovation. The Central Government has introduced the 'Universities for Research and Innovation Bill' in Parliament on 21.05.2012, which aims to provide for the establishment and incorporation of such universities. The Universities for Research and Innovation are expected to provide for the knowledge needs of the country, in training professionals, specialists, scientists and researchers needed by the society and economy. The Universities would focus on one area or problem of significance to India and to build an ecosystem of research and teaching around different related disciplines and fields of study and search for solutions that are globally valid and in the process develop education at under-graduate and higher levels. These universities would be set up in the public mode, the purely privately funded mode and in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode. A copy of the Bill is available at http://164.100.24.219/BillsTexts/LSBillTexts/asintroduced/61_2012_LS_ENG.pdf.

(d) These universities can be set up only after the Bill is passed by Parliament.

Fake Ph.D. degrees

1776. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a private university in Meghalaya had sold over 400 fake Ph.D. degrees and registered an equal number during the last one year and the Governor of Meghalaya had lodged a complaint against the university;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission has set up an expert committee to look into the irregularities committed by the university; 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. The University