

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two complaints of the misuse of funds under the MDM were received from Nagpur and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra. The complaints were referred to the State Government for taking necessary action. The Government of Maharashtra has reported that, after inquiry, no misuse of funds was found in either of the two cases.

#### Funds for SSA and MDMS for Bihar

391. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been allocated and released to Bihar under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day-Meal Scheme during the last three financial years, year-wise and scheme-wise; and

(b) whether Government has spent the total amount or there is any unspent amount along with the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The details of the funds allocated and released to Bihar and the unspent balance under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme (SSA) and the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) from 2010-11 to 2012-13 are given in the Statement (*See* below). The unspent amount of any year under SSA is carried forward to the next year as opening balance. An amount of Rs. 342.87 crore was deposited by the Bihar Government on 13.02.2012 in their Central Treasury as they could not utilize the central assistance released to them from 2004-05 to 2009-10 for the implementation of the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme.

#### Statement

*Details of the funds released to Bihar and the unspent balance under SSA and MDMS from 2010-11 to 2012-13*

(Rs. in lakh)

Scheme	SSA			
	Year	Allocated funds	Funds released	Unspent balance
	2010-11	538073.51	204789.63	156908.38
	2011-12	1112343.66	185108.94	57482.45
	2012-13	1061515.52	275462.25	82776.55

(Rs. in lakh)

Scheme Year	MDM	
	Allocated funds/ Released funds	Unspent balance
2010-11	80506.41	13221.01
2011-12	74492.31	14931.51
2012-13	86716.53	5124.41

#### **Setting up of Higher Education Apex Coordination Committee**

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

(a) whether the Ministry is proposing to set up an over-arching body namely the Higher Education Apex Coordination Committee to resolve the issue arising out of regulatory provisions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has constituted an overarching coordinating body named Higher Education Apex Coordination Committee in October, 2013. The Committee is chaired by the Human Resource Minister with Chairman University Grants Commission (UGC); Secretary, Higher Education; Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and President, Council of Architecture (CoA), as Members.

The essential mandate of the Committee is to remove the conflicts arising out of regulatory and other provisions of the regulatory bodies and professional councils. The Committee would also work towards finding common ground and take measures to promote inter-disciplinary learning and research, especially in the new and emerging fields of knowledge.

#### **Irregularities in preparations and servings of Mid-Day-Meals**

393. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of irregularities committed during preparations and servings of mid-day-meals in various schools in the country;

(b) if so, the details of incidents reported and the children affected due to various kinds of tragedy;