

taking into account all aspects of the matter, recommended suspension of nine students, including the two complainants, for the ensuing semester, *i.e.*, December, 2013 – May, 2014. The recommendations of the DC have been accepted by the VC on 31.10.2013 and the orders were issued by the Registrar on 01.11.2013.

(d) and (e) Puducherry University has informed the Ministry that as soon as it received the complaint regarding the alleged ragging, it had promptly got the matter inquired into by the ARC. The inquiry revealed that the allegations of ragging or sexual harassment were an afterthought and a ploy to get the other group punished. The University further added that it is quite sensitive to the issues relating to ragging and sexual harassment and has taken proactive measures. The grievances of the students, including that of ragging and sexual harassment, can be reported to any member of the ARC or the Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee (HSPC) whose names, contact numbers and e-mail IDs are available in the University's website, hostels and academic building, library and in the academic calendar issued to all students. This information is also available in the admission prospectus. Posters indicating zero-tolerance to ragging have been displayed at all public places and central facilities.

#### **New schemes for welfare of minorities**

\*42. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced any new schemes for the welfare of minorities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) new features in these schemes which separate them from the earlier schemes; and
- (d) the details and objectives of the new schemes/programmes?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The following new schemes are announced by the Government for the welfare of Minorities. The details of the schemes and new features are as under:—

**(i) "Seekho Aur Kamao (Learn and Earn)":**

Ministry of Minority Affairs has launched "Seekho aur Kamao (Learn and Earn)", a new 100% Central Sector Scheme for Skill Development of minorities. The scheme aims at upgrading the skills of the minority youths in various modern/traditional vocations depending upon their educational

qualification, present economic trends and the market potential, which can earn them a suitable employment or make them suitably skilled to go for self employment. The scheme puts a condition on Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) to ensure minimum 75% employment of trained youths, out of which 50% should be in organized sector. The target for 2013-14 is to skill 7,500 beneficiaries with an allocation of Rs. 17 crore. A pilot project for 500 minority youths has already been launched in collaboration with IL&FS Skill Development Corporation at 5 (five) locations namely, Delhi, Kolkata (West Bengal), Bengaluru (Karnataka), Barnala (Punjab) and Shillong (Meghalaya). Ministry has already taken action for empanelment of PIAs. NMDFC has also signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL) on imparting "Driver's Training to youths belonging to Minority Communities". The drivers training programme has already been launched in Karnataka during November, 2013.

Further, Multi-sectoral Development Plan (MsDP) has also been restructured to the effect that at least 10% of the allocation given to the States, would be earmarked for the skill training related activities of minority youth. The target is to skill 60,000 beneficiaries with an allocation of Rs. 125 crore. During 2013-14, project proposals of Rs. 22.98 crore for skill trainings of 17876 persons have been approved.

Earlier there was no specific placement linked skill development scheme of this Ministry for minority youth. This is a unique scheme with the objective to improve employability of existing workers, school dropouts etc. belonging to minority communities and ensure their placement. The scheme envisage that skills training for modern skills must result in minimum of 75% placement and out of that at least 50% placement should be in organized sector. It also aims to conserve and update traditional skills of minorities and establish their linkages with market.

**(ii) New Component under Free Coaching and Allied Scheme:**

During 2013-14 the new component of the scheme has been launched on pilot basis for focused preparation at class XI and XII with science for minority students. The scheme aims to empower the minority communities, which are relatively disadvantaged section of their skills and capabilities to make them employable in industries, services society, by assisting them as well as those institutions working for them, towards resilience to adapt itself to the market dynamics on a continuous basis so

that the target groups are not deprived of the professional acumen demanded by the enhancing and business sectors in addition to the Government Sector.

The salient features of the scheme are as under:—

- (i) About 900 students @ 100 or more students per Centre in 9 States/UTs, viz. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Delhi. More States/UTs may be covered in later years as per Scheme guidelines and availability of funds. In the current year 2013-14, three institutes have been selected one each from Maharashtra, Karnataka and West Bengal.
- (ii) The Ministry of Minority Affairs has advertised the details of the Scheme and invited proposal from the Schools/Colleges /Institutes having the facility of Hostel accommodation separately for Boys and Girls and running regular classes of XIth and XIIth with Science depending on the need for inclusion of more Schools/Colleges or States/UTs.
- (iii) The Institutes/Schools/ Colleges should be affiliated with CBSE/ICSE or State Education Boards to be eligible for this component.
- (iv) The physical verification of the Institute will be conducted by the Ministry through an agency/ies, so selected by the Ministry from time to time.
- (v) The selection of students will be done by the selected Schools/Colleges/Institutes from students belonging to the notified minority communities on the basis of merit i.e. % of marks or CGPA. The selection would be made starting from the highest % of marks or CGPA in the merit list for total number of students allotted to the selected Schools/Colleges/Institutes. The students who are selected under this component must be willing to take entrance exams for Engineering Degree/Medical Degree after completion of this course.
- (vi) The rate of financial support for a student selected under this Component is upto Rs. 1,00,000/- (one lakh) per annum which is payable to the Institute.
- (vii) The Outcome/Success Rate should not be less than 30% in case of allocation of students upto 100, 40% in case of allocation of students upto 200 under New Component of this Scheme. In case the stipulated Success Rate is not achieved, the amount of the last Instalment

payable to the Institute would be reduced proportionate to the percentage of deficiency in the outcome/success rate as penalty.

- (viii) The Institutes, that have failed to achieve the given success rate/ outcome, would not be eligible for receiving grant under this component in subsequent years.

**(iii) Support for Minority Students clearing Prelims conducted by Union Public Service Commission, Staff Selection Commission, State Public Service Commissions etc.:**

The objective of the Scheme is to provide financial support to the minority candidates clearing prelims conducted by Union Public Service Commission. Staff Selection Commission and State Public Service Commissions to adequately equip them to compete for appointment to Civil Services in the Union and the State Governments and to increase the representation of the minorities in the Civil Services by giving direct financial support to candidates clearing Preliminary Examination of Group A and B. Services conducted by UPSC, SSC and State Public Service Commissions (Gazetted and non-Gazetted posts).

Total family income of the candidates from all sources should not exceed Rs. 4.5 lakh per annum. The financial support can be availed by a candidate only once. The candidate will not be eligible to benefit from any other similar Scheme of the Central or State Governments/UT Administrations.

Every year upto a maximum of 800 candidates will be given financial support under the scheme throughout the country on fulfilling the eligibility criteria. Selection of the candidates will be based on merit in case of receipt of more number of applications against the earmarked number of slots for any particular community. The rate of financial assistance will be maximum Rs. Fifty thousand only (Rs. 50,000/- for Gazetted Post; and Rs. 25,000/- for Non-Gazetted Post) as support to the minority candidates who have cleared the Prelims conducted by Union Public Service Commissions; Staff Selection Commissions or State Public Service Commissions etc. for Group 'A' and 'B' Civil Services.

**(iv) Padho Pardesh — Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies for the students belonging to the Minority Communities:**

The objective of the scheme is to award interest subsidy to meritorious students belonging to economically weaker sections of notified minority

communities so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education abroad and enhance their employability. The salient features of the scheme is as under:—

- (i) The interest subsidy under the scheme shall be available to the eligible students only once, either for Masters or Ph.D levels.
  - (ii) The student should have secured admission in the approved courses at Masters, M.Phil or Ph.D levels abroad for the courses.
  - (iii) Total income from all sources of the employed candidate or his/her parents/guardians in case of unemployed candidate shall not exceed Rs. 6.00 lakh per annum.
  - (iv) One beneficiary from a family and one time award.
  - (v) 30% of the benefit under the scheme, will be reserved for female candidates.
  - (vi) Interest payable by the students availing of the education loans of the Indian Banks Association (IBA) for the period of moratorium (*i.e.* course period, plus one year or six months after getting job, whichever is earlier) as prescribed under the Education Loan Scheme of the IBA, shall be borne by the Government of India. After the period of moratorium is over, the interest on the outstanding loan amount shall be paid by the student, in accordance with the existing Educational Loan Scheme as may be amended from time to time. The Candidate will bear the Principal installments and interest beyond moratorium period.
- (v) **"Jiyo Parsi", a new scheme for containing population decline of Parsis in India**, has been launched during the current year 2013-14 with the objective to reverse the declining trend of Parsi population by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions, to stabilize their population and increase the population of Parsis in India. This Ministry extends financial assistance for outreach programmes/advocacy and fertility treatment as per scheme guidelines. The scheme is implemented by Ministry and Parzor Foundation. Financial outlay for Twelfth Plan is Rs. 10.00 Crore under the scheme. For 2013-14, Rs. 2.00 Crore have been earmarked.
- (vi) **Maulana Azad Medical Aid Scheme:**

As per the Budget Speech of the Hon'ble Finance Minister a new Scheme named Maulana Azad Medical Aid Scheme (MAMAS) is under process of formulation through which an infirmary/resident doctor would

be provided to the educational institutions financially assisted by Maulana Azad Education Foundation. Further, financial assistance would also be given to the poor minority patients who are suffering from life threatening diseases. In the current financial year, a sum of Rs. 100 Crore may be allocated to Maulana Azad Education Foundation to initiate the Scheme. Proposal is under submission.

**(vii) Establishment of Six Universities:**

Under its 14 objectives mentioned in the Memorandum of Association, Maulana Azad Education Foundation is exploring the possibilities to establish Six Universities in the country. These Universities will be established with a minority focus during the Twelfth Plan period. The Central Universities is intended to be set up under the Ministry of Minority Affairs through Acts of Parliament. The reservation available constitutionally to the various groups like SCs, STs, OBCs, etc. will not be tampered with. However, special provisions, for fixing a percentage of seats for their admission, will be brought in the Acts of the Universities to allow for focus on the educational empowerment of the five notified minorities who are depressed educationally and socially.

**(viii) Strengthening of State Waqf Boards:**

The JPC in its Ninth Report had recommended that the State Waqf Boards should be given central financial assistance as the present level of assistance provided by the State Governments is not only inadequate but also uneven. The assistance to the State Governments for strengthening their Waqf Boards should result in a more transparent and accountable administration and management of their waqf properties and allow improvement in income generation and attaining self-sufficiency.

This is a Central Sector scheme for administrative and institutional strengthening of the State Waqf Boards. The Central assistance amounting to Rs. 32.19 Crores would be provided during the Twelfth Plan period, *i.e.* during the period the State Waqf Boards are expected to become self-sufficient with surplus income generation. After Twelfth Plan, no central assistance would be provided and the respective State Governments would have to shoulder the responsibility. The Planning Commission has accorded 'In-Principle' approval of the scheme.

**(ix) Establishment of National Waqf Development Corporation:**

The Central Government proposes to set up National Waqf

Development Corporation (NWDC) which would take up development of the commercially viable waqf properties acting as a specialised financial and development institution. These properties, after development, would generate more income which may be used for the welfare of the minority community. The Corporation would be set up as a Joint Stock Company under the Companies Act, 1956 with an authorized share capital of Rs. 500 Crores with initial paid up capital of Rs. 100 Crore only. The Cabinet in its meeting held on 25.11.2012 has approved the proposal for setting up of NWDC.

**Availability and supply of potable water**

\*43. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether per-capita availability and supply of potable water in the country is at par with life standards set by the World Health Organization and water org.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Central Government to help people of the lower riparian States like Tamil Nadu to get adequate supply of potable water;

(c) whether the Central Government has allocated any funds to the Tamil Nadu Government to generate drinking water from sea water; and

(d) if so, the details of the funds allocated to the State for the desalination projects during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) This Ministry follows the quality standards for potable water in the country as laid down by Bureau of Indian Standards (IS:10500-2012). The quality standards of potable water for some of the major parameters as per BIS (IS:10500-2012) are given in Statement-I (*See* below). The target for per-capita availability as fixed by this Ministry's Guidelines, upto the Eleventh Plan Period was 40 litre per-capita per day (lpcd) which has been enhanced to 55 lpcd in the Twelfth Plan Period.

(b) Under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) the Central Government is responsible for providing financial and technical assistance to the States whereas the actual implementation of the Rural Water Supply Projects is done by the State Governments. The allocation and release of funds for last 3-years and the current year for the State of Tamil Nadu is given in Statement-II (*See* below). The number of new water supply schemes reported to be taken up during the last three years and current year in Tamil Nadu is given in Statement-III (*See* below).