

World class university in Odisha

2662. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of establishing a world class university in Odisha, as had been agreed to by the former Minister of Human Resource Development;
- (b) whether all clearances in the matter have since been obtained;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time-frame within which this university would be established and starts functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Human Resource Development had introduced the Universities for Research & Innovation Bill 2012 in Lok Sabha on 21st May, 2012. The Bill aimed to provide for establishment and incorporation of Universities for Research & Innovation. Fourteen such universities were proposed to be set up in different cities of the country including one at Bhubaneswar in Odisha. However, with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha, the Universities for Research & Innovation Bill 2012 has since lapsed.

Setting up of model schools

2663. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a scheme for setting up of 6,000 high quality schools at block level in rural areas is under operation since 2008;
- (b) if so, the number of such schools opened in rural areas of Maharashtra, district-wise, so far;
- (c) how far such schools are functioning; and
- (d) the performance of students studying in those schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Government of India since 2009-10, is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Model School which envisages setting up of 6,000 model schools as benchmark of excellence at block level at the rate of one school per block.