

6. University of Allahabad
7. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture, Science & Technology of Kashmir
8. Cochin University of Science and Technology
9. University of Madras
10. Barkatullah Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal

The scheme aims to create National Centres for Academic deliberations and action oriented research in the frontier areas of contemporary relevance for improving the quality of life and life management systems. The UGC is making available the financial assistance to these universities for the establishment of chairs.

Free education to girl child

†2757. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 165 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th December, 2005 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefit of free education to the girls would only be available to the girls studying in schools which are affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education or the Central Schools and it would not be available to the girls studying in the schools affiliated to the State Boards and its institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would also provide the above benefit to such girls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has, *vide* its circular dated 18.10.2005, directed schools affiliated to it to provide

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

full waiver of all fees (including tuition and all other fees except meal & transportation) charged by them, to each girls student from class VI to XII who is a "Single Child" of her parents either with immediate effect or from the next academic session commencing from 1.04.2006. As regard the extension of this benefit to students of State Boards, it is for the concerned States to consider providing such benefit.

Requirement of secondary education

†2758. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI C. PERUMAL:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that more secondary schools would be needed during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the number of the schools to be opened and the funds required therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) The number of additional schools & funds required for this purpose, would depend, *inter-alia*; on success of programmes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and on demand for secondary education from the students.

Languages of North-Eastern Region

2759. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

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

(a) the steps taken to popularize the languages of the Eastern and the North Eastern Region;

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