

ST in higher education in undivided Andhra Pradesh is just 10.2 per cent and 4.4 cent respectively when the national average is 20 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the situation in private unaided institutions is more pathetic; and

(c) if so, the views of the Ministry in this regard and the remedial measures proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) As per the provisional report of All India Survey on Higher Education, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher education at All India level is 20.4% for all Categories, 14.5 % for Scheduled Caste and 10.8 % for Scheduled Tribes during 2011-12. In undivided Andhra Pradesh Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for Scheduled Castes is 23.1% and for Scheduled Tribes is 21.0% during 2011-12.

(c) In the higher education sector, reservation is being provided to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes under the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Admission) Act, 2006. In order to encourage students of SC/ST/lower income groups for pursuing higher education, the Government is implementing scholarship programmes for them to supplement the cost of education.

The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology has been envisaged as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the objective of making the best use of ICT with the purpose of identification and nurturing of talent and life-long learning as well as extending the education facility to a larger section of people.

During the Twelfth Five Year Plan, a new scheme called the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) has been launched which aims to achieve equity, access and excellence in higher education through assistance to State universities.

#### **Protection of Sanskrit language**

3403. SHRI MOHAMMAD SHAFI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established Veda Pathashalas to protect Sanskrit language in the country, if so, the Budget allocation since its inception;

(b) the details of measures taken by Government to protect the language; and

(c) the number of Veda Pathashalas in the country, and whether Government is planning to modernize them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No, Sir. The Government has not directly established Veda Pathashalas. However, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Human Resource Development namely Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan (MSRVVP) has been established, in 1987 to preserve, conserve and develop the oral tradition of Vedic education for which the Pratishthan undertakes various activities to support traditional Vedic Institutions/Pathashalas all over the country.

Budget allocation since its inception *i.e.* 1987 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Government of India is taking all steps for protection, propagation, preservation and development of Sanskrit language, literature and rare Shastras, by funding three Sanskrit Deemed Universities *viz.* Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (RSKS), New Delhi, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha (RSV), Tirupati, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha (SLBSRSV), New Delhi and Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan (MSRWP), Ujjain. There are 21 Adarsha Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas (ASM), 4 Adarsha Shodha Sansthans (ASS), 11 campuses under RSKS and 73 Vedic Pathshalas under MSRVVP which are given financial assistance.

The Second Sanskrit Commission has been constituted in January, 2014 to assess the present status of Sanskrit education in all its aspects and to integrate traditional Sanskrit knowledge into the modern system of education.

The Scheme of Award of 'Certificate of Honour' to honour the eminent scholars of Sanskrit and 'Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman' to honour young scholars in Sanskrit are in force. An International Award for Non Resident Indian or a foreigner is also covered under this scheme.

(c) Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan (MSRVVP), Ujjain is providing financial assistance to 73 Vedic Pathashalas which are run by the NGOs/Trusts and 294 Guru Shishya Parampara Units at present.

Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, besides the study of oral tradition of Veda, makes arrangement to teach students Sanskrit, English, Maths and Social Science to integrate their learning with mainstream education.

**Statement***Budget Allocation/Received from Ministry of Human Resource Development*

(₹ in lakhs)

Year	Budget Allocation/ Received from Ministry of Human Resource Development.
1987-1988	73.94
1988-1989	40.00
1989-1990	22.20
1990-1991	23.24
1991-1992	25.20
1992-1993	25.00
1993-1994	60.00
1994-1995	65.00
1995-1996	99.00
1996-1997	45.00
1998-1999	44.45
1999-2000	66.00
2000-2001	118.29
2001-2002	81.29
2002-2003	120.00
2003-2004	100.00
2004-2005	135.00
2005-2006	25.00
2006-2007	170.00
2007-2008	520.00
2008-2009	1125.00
2009-2010	1200.00
2010-2011	1200.00
2011-2012	1200.00
2012-2013	3200.00
2013-2014	2750.00
2014-2015	2500.00