

Setting up of rural university

3427. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) as on date, the action taken by the Ministry, in consultation with the University Grants Commission to set up rural university to execute ideas of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi; and

(b) the details of action taken by Government to introduce various Gandhian literature programme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) At present, there is no proposal to set up a Rural University in the country by the University Grants Commission (UGC) or Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). However, the Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu, a Deemed to be University is already functioning under MHRD. The Institute was declared as a Deemed to be University in the year 1976. The Institute provides instruction and training in such branches of learning as it may determine to promote a classless and casteless society and integrated and sustainable rural development on Gandhian lines. It is fully funded by Government of India.

(b) However, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has started a scheme of “Epoch Making Social Thinkers of India” in various universities/colleges to introduce various courses on great thinkers and social leaders, their thoughts and philosophies including Gandhian studies. As reported by the UGC, under this scheme 85 Gandhian Studies Centres have been approved by the UGC for continuation in the Twelfth Plan and 55 Centres have been approved for establishment during Twelfth Plan *w.e.f* 2013-14. Details of the scheme are available at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/xiplanpdf/epochmakingsociathinkersl.pdf>.

Creation of academic cadre for education sector

†3428. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to create a separate academic cadre for the education sector;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this direction, so far; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Although National Education Policy, 1986 (modified in 1992) provides for formation of Indian Education Service as an All India Service, there was no consensus among the State Governments and as such the proposal was dropped.

Standards of education in Government schools

†3429. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the standards of education imparted in Government schools is lower than that of private schools;

- (b) if so, the steps being taken to improve the standards of education in Government schools and bring them at par with those of private schools;

- (c) whether Government is contemplating to open Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in the hilly States; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development is presently running Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs). The comparable results of KVs and JNVs *viz-a-viz* the other school system for the last 3 years are as follows:

Year	CLASS-X				CLASS-XII			
	KVS	JNVs	CBSE	Private Schools	KVS	JNVs	CBSE	Private Schools
2012	99.49%	99.58%	98.19%	99.20%	94.15%	95.96%	80.19%	80.11%
2013	99.90%	99.73%	98.76%	99.46%	94.82%	96.14%	82.10%	82.31%
2014	99.59%	99.80%	98.87%	99.44%	97.39%	97.67%	82.66%	82.77%

The improvement in the quality of education in these schools is a continuous process through various interventions like recruitment of qualified and trained teachers, emphasis on teacher training through regular in-service teacher training programme and refresher courses with a view to upgrade their knowledge and skills, provisions of better

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