

recommendations and medium and long term recommendations made by ASSOCHAM, India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government in implementing those recommendations and to achieve the goals in developing the human resource in the country by 2020; and

(d) the total funds required for the implementation of such recommendations and in achieving the desired goal by 2020?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. (DR.) RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has noted the recommendations made by ASSOCHAM, India. These have been kept for consideration as and when the new education policy is formulated. However, a few initiatives already taken are mentioned below:

(i) Steps have been taken for setting up a National e-library.

(ii) Setting up of Virtual Classrooms and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

(iii) National Skill Qualification Framework has been formulated.

(iv) Joint research proposals have been sanctioned in collaboration with Indian and foreign universities.

During the XII Plan, an outlay of ₹ 110700.00 crore has been provided to Department of Higher Education. The XII Plan will build on the momentum generated during the XI Plan and continue the focus on the 'Three E's-Expansion, Equity and Excellence'.

Functioning of RUSA

66. PROF. MRINAL MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) was launched in 2013, as an instrument for promotion of quality education in higher educational institutions in all parts of the country and the Central Project Appraisal Board was to be the monitoring authority of RUSA;

- (b) if so, whether RUSA is functioning as envisaged;
- (c) if so, the progress achieved under RUSA, so far; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. (DR.) RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) was approved by the Cabinet on 3rd October, 2013 for reforming higher education in the States in order to achieve the aims of access, excellence and equity. RUSA is implemented and monitored through an institutional architecture comprising the Mission Authority, Project Approval Board and the National Project Directorate at the national level; the State Higher Education Councils and State Project Directorates at the State level and; the Board of Governors, or equivalent body and the Project Monitoring Units at the institutional level.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As on date 28 States and 5 UTs are participating in RUSA, of which, 19 States have submitted their State Higher Education Plans (SHEPs). An amount of ₹ 74.04 crores has been approved for 23 States and 4 UTs as preparatory grants; ₹ 2.51 crores approved for Management Monitoring Evaluation and Research (MMER); ₹ 256.08 crores has been approved for 81 Model Degree Colleges (MDC); ₹ 154.77 crores approved as Infrastructure Grants for 155 Colleges and ₹ 100 crores for 10 Universities in 4 States; ₹ 16 crores approved for 3 States for Upgradation of 8 existing colleges into MDCs; ₹ 19.475 and ₹ 6.40 crores approved for Vocationalisation of Higher Education in 5 States and Equity Initiatives in 3 States respectively; ₹ 3.33 crores and ₹ 9.04 crores approved for faculty improvement and faculty recruitment respectively for 01 State; ₹ 79.90 crores approved for setting up of 04 Universities in 03 States by clustering of colleges and; ₹ 104 crores approved for setting up Professional Colleges in 5 States.

- (d) Does not arise.

Subsidy to solar panel and selenium chip producing industries

67. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government subsidises solar panel and selenium chip producing industries in the country;