

**Sexual assault on students**

2279. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is taking any steps to prevent the occurrence of sexual assaults on students by college/university's teaching and non-teaching staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry intends to introduce workshop to train both male and female students to feel safe to report such instances and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The University Grants commission (UGC) has issued directions to all universities to establish a cell to monitor and deal with sexual harassment cases. The Universities/Institutions have also been requested to develop a page on their web-site for loading such complaints of sexual harassment and to take prompt action as soon as such incident comes to their notice.

(c) UGC has sent an advisory to all the Educational Institutions that the University/Institute/College must have a committee and a separate cell to deal with issues of gender based violence and gender sensitization programmes, to evaluate, assist and support Higher Educational Institutes to meet certain requirements which will make it mandatory in order to give effect to a policy of zero tolerance on campuses for gender based violence and harassment with a view to eliminating cultures of impunity (and also cultures of silence and complicity). UGC has also requested Universities to sensitize the management and the teachers of the institutions and to work out a road map of action for the guidance of colleges and other institutions, which may include the items like holding of conferences, seminars, conducting of workshops and classes for self-defence of girls, research and studies.

All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has informed that to sensitize the management and teachers of the institutions of higher education in their respective administrative control and to work out a road map of action for the guidance of colleges and other institutions, the council has so far conducted 13 workshops at different places.

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has informed that following Sexual Harassment Committees are functional in the University:-

- (i) Regional Services Division Committee against Sexual Harassment (RSDCASH)
- (ii) Regional Centres Committee against Sexual Harassment (RCCASH)
- (iii) IGNOU Committee against Sexual Harassment (ICASH)
- (iv) Apex Committee against Sexual Harassment (ACASH)

**Promotion of scholarship and literature in Urdu**

2280. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government to protect, preserve and promote scholarship and literature in Urdu;

(b) the total population of the country who speak Urdu, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of cultural/language institutions receiving aid from Government for promotion of the language and the total amount of funds disbursed for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Government of India is promoting Urdu language through National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), an autonomous organization under this Ministry, by administering various activities to protect, preserve and promote scholarship and literature in Urdu viz. financial assistance to Urdu writers/scholars for publication of manuscripts, purchase of books/journals/magazines, financial assistance to hold seminar/lecture-series, organization of Urdu book fairs, Computer Applications, Business Accounting and Multilingual DTP Course, Calligraphy and Graphic design centres, Urdu Correspondence Course through accredited study centres and Urdu Online Learning Programme. Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad, a Central University, extends all the support for sanction of scholarship from the respective State Governments for Under Graduate and Post Graduate programmes and University Grants Commission fellowship is granted to M.Phil and Ph.D courses.

(b) The total population of the country who speak Urdu, State-wise is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The total number of cultural/language institutions receiving aid from Government for promotion of the language and the total amount of funds disbursed for this purpose, State-wise is given in the Statement-II and III.