

Expenditure on education

†17. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to spend six per cent of the Gross Domestic Product on education;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on primary, secondary, higher education and vocational education out of it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI) : (a) to (c) The Common Minimum Programme of the Government pledges to raise public spending in education to at least 6% of GDP with at least half of this amount being spent on primary and secondary sectors. This will be done in a phased manner.

University Grants Commission for technical institutions

18. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a separate University Grants Commission exclusively for the technical institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any schemes to finance upgradation of technical education; and

(d) the details of a more focused organization which would be set up to cater exclusively to the technical education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal to set up a separate University Grants Commission exclusively for technical education as a statutory body. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) already exists for proper planning and coordinated development of the technical education system throughout the country.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.