

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. ALI ASHRAF 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.

(c) AICTE grants financial assistance under various schemes such as Research Promotion, Modernisation and Removal of Obsolescence. Industry Institute Partnership, National Facility in Engineering and Technology with Industrial Collaboration, National Co-ordinated Projects, Entrepreneurship Management Development, Quality Improvement Programme, Early Faculty Induction Programme, Faculty Development Programmes, Emeritus Fellowship, Visiting Professorship, Career Award Scheme, Seminar, Symposia and workshops, International Travel Grants, Distinguished Visiting Professorship, National Doctoral Fellowship. The seven Indian Institutes of Technology are acting as nucleus to provide leadership role for improvement of quality of technical education system in the respective region. The Government has also upgraded the erstwhile Regional Engineering Colleges and converted them into National Institutes of Technology with Deemed University status and fully funded institutions of the Central Government. A programme for improvement of Quality of Technical Education in the country namely Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India has been launched.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Cases of paper leakage

19. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a number of incidents of paper leakage of various Government controlled examinations;

(b) if so, the details of all such cases during the last one year;

(c) the number of officials found involved in each case and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The Question paper for All India Pre Medical Pre-Dental Entrance (Preliminary) Examination, 2004 conducted by CBSE and scheduled for 11.4.2004 was leaked out. The Question paper was leaked by a Computer Assistant working in the office of the Controller of Examinations of CBSE,