

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Ministry does not have official data to confirm that coaching centres in India are poaching teachers and taking experienced teachers from schools to their coaching centres.

(b) The retention of experienced teachers in Government schools and colleges is ensured through good service conditions offering security of service, decent pay packages, adequate promotional avenues, attractive training packages for capacity building, assured job satisfaction, provisions for post retirement benefits including leave encashment, gratuity, pension, etc.

(c) The aggrieved students, duped from engineering and professional institutes charging exorbitant fees on deceitful promises of assured admission, can take recourse to existing legal remedies including Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

**Study centres in collaboration with Muslim higher
educational institutes**

237. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up accredited study centres in collaboration with certain Muslim institutions of higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the places identified for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which these study centres are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Special Focus Districts under SSA in Maharashtra

238. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether bridging gender and social category gaps in elementary education is one of the goals of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), if so, details thereof;

(b) how far this gap has been narrowed, so far;

(c) whether SSA has identified Special Focus Districts, if so, the districts identified in Maharashtra; and