even up to the extent of disaffiliation. The CBSE *vide* its Circular dated 18.4.2012 has also directed all concerned to follow the Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.

Similarly, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has brought out the UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009. Recently, these regulations have been further amended by enlarging the definition of ragging. These regulations are to be followed by all higher educational institutions. The UGC has also developed the Anti-Ragging Website *i.e. www.antiragging.in*. The Portal contains the record of registered complaints received and the status of the action taken thereon. A nationwide toll free 24x7 Anti-Ragging Helpline 1800-180-5522 in 12 languages has been established. UGC has also developed the Anti-Ragging Mobile Application for filing the complaint on ragging, filing the anti-ragging undertaking and for calling the toll Free Anti-Ragging Helpline Number and same may be downloaded from Google Play Store. UGC sends a circular regarding strict compliance of UGC Regulations on curbing the menace of ragging in higher educational institutions, at least twice a year.

Drop-out of girl students due to lack of toilets

1365. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lack of toilets for girls schools in India is the main reason for drop-out rate of girls in schools;
- (b) what is the status of building toilets for women and girls in the schools in the country; and
- (c) what is the time-frame within which all the schools where girls are enrolled would be covered with proper toilets for the girl students?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Lack of toilet facilities in schools for girl child has been one of the reasons for girls to drop-out from schools.

(b) and (c) The Government of India has prioritized the education of girls and therefore, it launched the Swachh Vidyalaya initiative across the country for provision of separate girls' and boys' toilets in all Government schools. Under this initiative, the Government achieved the ambitious target of building 4,17,796 toilets in 2,61,400 Government schools in one year alone by 15th August, 2015. With this, about 13.58 crore children in 11.08 lakh Government schools have access to gender segregated toilets. This has had a positive impact on retention of girls in schools, which has been recognized at the time of the Prime Minister's Award of Excellence, 2016.

1,06,634 new girls' toilets were constructed and 84,253 dysfunctional girls' toilets were restored during the one year period between 15.8.2014 and 15.8.2015, thus, ensuring availability of girls' toilets in all Government schools having girl students.

Review of minority status of educational institutions

1366. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is reviewing the minority status of certain educational institutions; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the institutions whose minority status is under review or proposed to be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The minority status of two educational institutions, namely Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), which are Central Universities, is *sub-judice* before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the High Court of Delhi respectively. The Government has decided to revisit the issue of their minority status to revert to the stand that these Central Universities are not minority institutions.

Pending proposals for development of schools from Maharashtra

- 1367. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of proposals sent and fund demanded by the State Government of Maharashtra for education and development of schools and colleges during the last three years;
- (b) the number of proposals out of them approved and funds released during the above period; and
- (c) the number of proposals lying pending along with the reasons for pendency?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The details of proposals received, funds approved and funds released to Maharashtra under various Schemes of the Ministry during the last three years are as under: