

(b) whether he has further asserted that IIMs needed only Rs. 5 crore of non-Plan support, and that while withdrawing the fee cut order, these facts were ignored; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and what legal remedy Government have in view if the above order is challenged in the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Government reduced the fee for the Post-Graduate Programmes (PGP) in Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) to Rs. 30,000/- per annum *vide* orders dated 5th February, 2004. The issue of reduction of fees of IIMs was brought to the attention of present Government immediately after its assumption in office.

The Government is fully committed to respecting the autonomy of all the institutes of higher learning. Therefore, the matter regarding revision of fees for PGP in IIMs has been reviewed by Government in consultation with them. It is relevant to add that the autonomy of the IIMs was given through a Cabinet decision in 1994. According to this decision, the IIMs can take decisions on matters related to fees on their own. This decision continues to be in force and has not been revised till date. All the Memoranda of Association of the IIMs also contain provision vesting the authority of fixing fees to their respective Governing Bodies/Societies. As such, neither under the Cabinet decision nor under the Memoranda of Association, the matter of fixing of fees falls within the jurisdiction of the Government. It has accordingly been decided to withdraw the Ministry's order dated 5th February, 2004, *vide* orders dated 29th June, 2004. Therefore, this order of the Government does not in any way violate any verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Appointment of Urdu Teachers

1219. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made tall promises about appointing 20 million Urdu teachers; and

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(b) if so, the action Government propose to implement this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Karnataka

1220. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allotted and released to Karnataka under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during the year 2003-04 and 2004-05, district-wise;

(b) whether request of the State Government for more funds is still pending with the Union Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to speed up the process of releasing more funds to Karnataka under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) A statement showing district-wise allocation of funds approved for Karnataka under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during 2003-04 and 2004-05 is enclosed. (See below) Rs. 10426.67 lakhs and Rs. 3000.00 lakhs were released to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Samithi, the State Implementation Society set up by Government of Karnataka to implement SSA, during 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively. Releases to districts are made by the said Samithi.

(b) to (d) Release of further central assistance to Karnataka in 2004-05 is held up as the Government of Karnataka has not released its full share due upto 31.3.2004 to the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Samithi. State Government has been requested to release its share expeditiously, so that further central assistance can be released.