

(b) if so, whether the Universities which are established before 1972 are also covered under this such as Gandhi Gram Rural University, Gandhigram, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if not, whether the UGC has informed these Government of India funded Deemed Universities that this condition is not applicable to them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Institutions of higher education are declared as Deemed to be Universities by the Government of India, on the advice of the University Grants Commission (UGC), under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956. All Institutions Deemed to be Universities whether established before or after 1972 are regulated by the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 as amended from time to time. This includes Gandhigram Rural Institute.

#### Mid-Day Meal scheme in Puducherry

530. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) details of funds allocated and utilized in Puducherry under Mid-Day Meal scheme in the last five years, year-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether there is any plan to provide two eggs in a week to students;

(c) whether it is a fact that some States are providing breakfast also to students; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider the same for school children of Puducherry, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Year-wise details of funds allocated and utilized in the Union Territory of Puducherry during the last 5 years under Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Year	Fund released	Fund utilized
2011-12	635.99	635.99
2012-13	506.17	506.17
2013-14	401.52	528.50
2014-15	597.70	587.29
2015-16	520.77	448.45*

\*Till 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015

The district-wise data are not maintained at national level.

(b) No, Sir, there is no such proposal with the Ministry. However, 14 States/UTs are providing eggs to the children from their own resources.

(c) and (d) In addition to mid-day meals, Breakfast Scheme is being implemented in Puducherry under which 100 ml. hot milk is being provided to students studying in Government/Government Aided Schools from the UT's own resources.

#### **Committee for popularising Sanskrit language**

531. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up any Committee to popularise Sanskrit language; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Human Resource Development had constituted a Committee to suggest a long term vision and road map for the development of Sanskrit under the Chairmanship of Shri N. Gopalaswami, Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati on 18.11.2015. The Committee has submitted its report to this Ministry which may be perused at this Ministry's website at [http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/Report-CVRM.pdf](http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Report-CVRM.pdf).

#### **Increase in intake of NIT colleges**

532. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has increased the seats of National Institute of Technology (NIT) colleges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof along with the actual demands of each State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The National Institutes of Technology (NITs) are autonomous Institutions of national importance governed by the provisions of the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) Act, 2007 and the First Statutes framed under the Act. The seats in NITs have marginally increased due to starting of new programmes at both under graduate and post graduate levels.