

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that individual complaints regarding non-refund of fees by universities and colleges are received. No such data however, for the country as a whole is Centrally maintained by the UGC. As soon as grievances of this nature are received by UGC, they are forwarded to the institution of higher education concerned for strict compliance of instructions issued by the UGC.

(d) The UGC issued a public notice on 23rd April, 2007 that Institutions/ Universities including Deemed to be Universities are not to retain original certificates. The entire fee collected from the student, after a deduction of a processing fee of not more than ₹ 1000/- (one thousand only) shall be refunded and returned to the student/candidate if she/he withdraws from the programme. Subsequently on 22nd June, 2011 and on 11th January, 2016, UGC has issued letters to Vice-Chancellors of all the Universities/ Deemed to be Universities reiterating to abide by the instructions issued by the UGC in the public notice dated 23rd April, 2007.

Further, the UGC has framed the University Grants Commission (Grievance Redressal) Regulations 2012 for Higher Educational Institutions which came into force on 23rd March, 2013 to address the grievances of students. In addition, the UGC has launched a Students Grievance Redressal Portal on 23rd March, 2015 for lodging grievances, sending reminders and for viewing status of the action taken. Students can access the portal at www.ugc.ac.in through the Student Grievance link.

Shifting of NIT, Srinagar

†560. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to shift NIT, Srinagar outside Srinagar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) if not, the manner in which the incidents of discrimination against non-Kashmiri students would be handled?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) While no cases of discrimination have been reported, a Student Grievance Redressal Committee has been constituted with two external members to attend to any complaints of the students in a time bound manner.

Increasing coir products in Maharashtra

561. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian coir products such as rugs, carpets, fibres, coir pith and mats are in big demand abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof with figures of export of these products during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what action Government proposes to take to substantially increase the production of these coir products in Maharashtra and other coastal States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The export statistics of Coir Products for the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) In order to increase the coir production in the State of Maharashtra, the Coir Board has augmented its activities in the State. Recently the Board has established a Sub-Regional Office at Sindhudurg. A showroom and sales depot of the Board is functioning at Navi Mumbai. Coir Board is also implementing various Schemes for promotion of coir in the country which also contribute to enhanced production and export of coir and coir products. In particular, the Export Market Promotion under Coir Vikas Yojana provides for adoption of product specific and market specific promotional activities for popularizing coir and coir products in overseas markets, supporting export oriented coir units on modernization, etc. The interventions under the Scheme also include market survey, consultancy, data sourcing, participation in international events, product promotion, catalogue shows and financial assistance to entrepreneurs. Besides this, Coir Board is also implementing other Scheme interventions for the sustainable development of Coir industry in the country, which includes, Coir Udhayami Yojana, Science and Technology, Skill Upgradation, Quality Improvement Scheme and Mahila Coir Yojana, Domestic Market Promotion, Scheme of Funds for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI).