

Satellite campus of Central Universities in Jammu and Kashmir

1827. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to extend the institutional base of Central Universities recognizing the need for higher education in Jammu and Kashmir by setting up the satellite campuses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government has launched Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) on cost sharing basis to assist States to open new institutions.

Measures for improving quality of education in Government schools

1828. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that enrolment of children in schools has gone up but the quality of education especially in Government schools is abysmal;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain the precise reasons for the bad quality of education and, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) As per Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE), 2015-16 (provisional) 19.67 crore children are enrolled at elementary level and 1.73 crore at secondary level. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts periodic national surveys of learning achievement of children in classes—III, V, VIII, and X. Four rounds of National Achievement Surveys (NAS) have been conducted so far for class V whereas three rounds have been conducted for classes III and VIII. These reveal improvement in learning achievement levels of pupils, in various subjects. First round of NAS has been conducted at Class X level, indicating that there is need for significant improvement in learning levels.

(c) The Central Government through a Centrally funded programme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), supports States/UTs on early grade reading, writing and comprehension, and early Mathematics programmes through a sub-programme namely 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat' (PBBB) in classes I and II. Further the Government has