

qualifying benchmarks for Career Advancement Scheme and for direct recruitment of teachers and other academic staff in Universities and Colleges.

To maintain standards in Higher Education and to ensure quality teaching faculties in Higher Educational Institutions, the Central Government reviews minimum qualifications and teacher performance indicators from time to time. On the basis of such reviews, the UGC brings in amendments to APIs both for Career Advancement Scheme and for direct recruitment of teachers and other academic staff in Universities and Colleges. The last such amendments to APIs was effected through the notification of the 4th Amendment to the UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education), Regulations, 2016 dated 11th July, 2016.

UGC has, *inter-alia*, implemented the "Operation Faculty Recharge Scheme" wherein it recruits quality faculty through advertisements and posts them to various universities with a view to augment the research and teaching resources of Higher Educational Institutions.

Tender for construction in IIT Delhi

3242. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of tender for construction in IIT Delhi awarded during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of construction company, which are getting tender during the last three years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that contractors are getting the tenders colluding with the officers of CPWD; and
- (d) if so, what actions have been taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) IIT-Delhi has taken up three construction projects in the last three years and the current year. These are Lecture Hall Complex (LHC) and Two Engineering Blocks at Delhi and Innovation Centre for Education (ICE) in Rajiv Gandhi Education Centre at Sonapat (Haryana). The projects at Delhi have been entrusted to CPWD and the project at Sonapat to NBCC. While CPWD has awarded the works at Delhi to M/s B.L. Kashyap & Sons and M/s Nagarjun Construction Company, the Sonapat project has been awarded by NBCC to M/s NKG Construction Company.

(c) and (d) Since award of tender to private contractors was finalized by CPWD and NBCC, IIT Delhi is not aware of any collusion in this regard.

Sports as subject in New Education Policy

3243. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted for evolution of the New Education Policy has noted the views and suggestions received on various themes identified;

(b) what has been the Committee's observations on the suggestions received to introduce sports as a graded subject in schools; and

(c) what is the time-frame that the committee is looking at for putting in place the New Education Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) Yes Sir, the Government is in the process of formulating a New Education Policy (NEP), for which it carried out year-long consultation process on the identified 33 themes, across both school and higher education, through online on MyGov platform; grass-root starting from Village to Block, District, State and Zonal levels on <https://survey.mygov.in>; and thematic consultations with experts and autonomous bodies, such as UGC, AICTE, NCERT, NCTE, AIU, and other centrally funded institutions. Meetings were also held with Government of India Ministries and State Governments. All the suggestions received from multiple stakeholders were forwarded to the Committee for Evolution of the New Education Policy, which examined the large body of outcome documents, recommendations and suggestions received from the various consultations and submitted its report in May, 2016.

(b) and (c) One of the themes under School Education is '*Comprehensive Education - Ethics, Physical Education, Arts and Crafts, Life Skills*'. In its Report it reads as follows: "*The Committee, during its field visits and in discussions with local authorities and school management observed that in general, inadequate stress is given to this aspect of schooling. The Committee also observed that many private schools, both in urban and rural areas, frequently had no provision whatever for such facilities. The importance of physical development of children is not given the attention it vitally needs. School authorities in states need to bring renewed focus on this aspect. It is time to make a specific, non-divertible budget for sports facilities in government schools, as also in private schools.*"

After perusal of the report of the Committee and the recommendations from various consultations as well as other views and comments received, 'Some Inputs for the Draft