

**Shortage of quality universities in the country**

213. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of universities in the country which can take on the challenges of providing world class education and producing world acclaimed talents is insufficient;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to address the shortage of quality universities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) While it is true that not many Indian Higher Educational Institutions find place in the top rankings of renowned global ranking framework, the Government is continuously trying to ensure that Indian institutions provide quality education to the students. A number of institutions like Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore and certain Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) find place within top 500 of the world rankings.

(c) The Government is in process of formulating a regulatory architecture for enabling ten public and ten private institutions to emerge as world-class Teaching and Research Institutions. The Guidelines and Regulations for World Class Institutions have been placed on the website of the Ministry ([www.mhrd.gov.in](http://www.mhrd.gov.in)). University Grants Commission ([www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in)) and [mygov.in](http://mygov.in). Public comments, view and suggestions were invited, to be received by 28.10.2016. Further, Government is implementing the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to assist State level institutions in improving the quality of education. Government is also implementing Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN) programme, under which renowned foreign academicians and experts are invited to give short term courses in Indian institutions.

**Decrease in seats under RTE due to closure of schools**

†214. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of seats decreased or not filled under the Right to Education Act due to the closing down of Government and private schools during the last two years, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.