

Time-bound action plan for eradication of urban poverty

†992. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any steps for preparing a time bound action plan for eradication of urban poverty from the country;

(b) if so the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government is committed to the development philosophy of “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas” and its policy thrust is on improving well-being of people. Urban Poverty is multifaceted and presents multiple challenges. As on date, multifarious interventions by various Ministries/Departments, State Governments, urban local bodies, international and national organisations, other agencies in public, private and cooperative sector and civil society organizations are aimed at addressing these varied challenges. Direct intervention by specific poverty reduction and mitigation strategies and implementation of other welfare programmes being implemented by various Ministries include, *inter alia*, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, National Health Mission, Targeted Public Distribution System/National Food Security Act, and various insurance schemes etc. Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is administering the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All (Urban) Mission [PMAY-HFA(U) Mission], which are implemented by respective State Government/UT Administration and contribute to poverty eradication. It is also mentioned that measures like Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, use of Aadhaar, mobile telephony and Direct Benefit Transfer ensure that welfare benefits reach intended beneficiaries and subsidies are transferred directly in their bank account.

Audit of violations of UGC regulations by Deemed Universities

993. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government undertook audit regarding violations of provisions of 4 to 4.12 contained in UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016 by the Deemed Universities across the country, if so, the details thereof, Statewise; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether any shortcomings/violations were noted against any Deemed Universities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) Clause 4 to 4.12 of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016 deal with eligibility criteria only for an Institution applying for a Deemed to be University status.

However, during inspection of existing Deemed to be Universities, adherence of these criteria, as applicable, is seen by the UGC Expert Committee. As per the UGC Regulations, 2016, after its notification on 11.07.2016, inspection of following four Deemed to be Universities has been conducted by the UGC and the shortcomings observed during inspection are communicated to the Institutions to rectify the deficiencies:

- (i) Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi-110 016.
- (ii) I.I.S. University, Gurukul Marg, Mansarovar, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- (iii) Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Fisheries University Road, 7 Bungalows, Andheri West, Mumbai-400 061, Maharashtra.
- (iv) Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, P.O. Belur Math, Distt Howrah-711 202, West Bengal.

Linking of autonomy of Universities to their performance

994. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to linking the autonomy of higher education institutions to their performance as measured by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF);

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to divide universities into three categories on the basis of their NIRF rankings; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the first will be most autonomous while the last will require more regulation, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) At present, only such higher educational institutions which are accredited by NAAC/NBA are considered for autonomy by the Universities. The matter of considering the rankings for the purpose of autonomy is under consideration of the Government.