

Introduction of annual examination for class V and VIII

995. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the learning outcome has deteriorated with the implementation of the no-detention policy from class I to class VIII; and

(b) if so, whether Government in consultation with State Governments proposes to introduce annual examination for class V and VIII, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) 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 which indicates that there is a need for significant improvement in learning levels. The learning level of children depend upon several factors including socio-economic, socio-geographic and educational background of the students, availability of basic infrastructure/amenities in schools, availability of trained and competent teachers in the schools and so on.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which came into force on 1, April 2010, provides free and compulsory education for the children at elementary level, in the age group of 6-14 years. Section 29 of the RTE, Act 2009 stipulates that there should be Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) of every child to assess their learning levels and provide additional instruction accordingly. Under the CCE framework, schools and respective Governments are free to conduct periodic examinations for children of all levels.

Revamping of University Grants Commission

996. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether NITI Aayog has been assigned with the task of preparing a proposal to revamping the University Grants Commission, if so, objectives behind this move;

(b) whether the Aayog has also been entrusted the job of preparation of roadmap for 20 world class institutions in the country;

(c) if so, the institutions identified for this purpose; and

(d) how this roadmap is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) NITI Aayog has been