

(b) if so, whether Government has taken a view on the issue in view of decline in educational levels; and

(c) whether the Central Government has consulted the States on the subject and propose to amend the RTE Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) Section 16 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 stipulates that 'No child admitted in a school shall be held back in any class or expelled from school till the completion of elementary education'. The Central Government invited the comments and views of all State Governments and UT Administrations on this No Detention provision. 28 States/UTs have responded with their views.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Blocking of admission seat by students

1014. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to do away with the refund of one lakh rupees to students;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the amount used for blocking admission seat was not being taken seriously by students as almost 95 per cent of it is refunded; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to allow students to register again and mark fresh option, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Low enrolment of female students in higher education

1015. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that proportion of enrolment of female students in higher education in the age group of 18-23 is abysmally low, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government undertook any study to assess the reasons for the gender disparity in enrolment at higher education between males and females, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) As per the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2014-15 report, the estimated enrolment of students, gender-wise, during 2014-15 is given below:

<i>Enrolment</i>		
Male	Female	Total
18488619	15723018	34211637

As per AISHE 2014-15, Gender Parity Index (GPI) at 0.92 shows that proportion of enrolment of male students in higher education to their population in the age group 18-23 years is marginally higher than the corresponding proportion for female students.

(b) No study has been undertaken by the Government to assess the reasons for the gender disparity in higher education. However, in order to encourage girls students for pursuing higher education, the Government is implementing scholarship/fellowship programmes for them to supplement the cost of education. For increasing participation of girls in higher education 'Construction of Women's hostels for colleges' scheme is also being implemented.

Reservation for faculty jobs in IIMs

1016. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to enforce reservation for faculty jobs in IIMs, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what are the reasons, therefor specially when Government has decided to enhance the higher education in this country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are expected to follow Government guidelines with regard to reservation for faculty jobs in IIMs. The Government has advised the IIMs through letter dated 4th February, 2013 and reminders dated 5th April, 2016 and 3rd June, 2016 to review the position of implementation of reservation policy. IIMs follow an elaborate system of recruitment to maintain quality and therefore, reservation for