

Sl. No.	State	Name of cities	Amount Released
		5. Jhansi	2
		6. Kanpur	2
		7. Allahabad	2
		8. Lucknow	68.2
		9. Varanasi	2
		10. Ghaziabad	2
		11. Agra	2
		12. Rampur	2
35.	Uttarakhand	1. Dehradun	2
36.	West Bengal	1. New Town Kolkata	2
		2. Bidhannagar	2
		3. Durgapur	2
		4. Haldia	2
TOTAL			5,961.70

Note: Letter of Authority @ ₹ 2 crore each to Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep for preparation of Smart City Proposals in respect of Port Blair and Kavaratti respectively were issued in FY 2015-16. However, they did not claim the same.

Recommendations for making English compulsory in schools

1675. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Group on Education and Social Development making English compulsory in schools has been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of other recommendations made;

(d) whether access to English, which is part of language of the global knowledge economy, would be beneficial to India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Group of Secretaries made the following recommendations under the theme of 'Promote English and Science in School Education'.

(i) English to be a compulsory subject in schools from standard 6 onwards;

- (ii) At least one English medium school in every block;
- (iii) Science education facility to be ensured in a radius of 5 kilometers.

(c) to (e) The Report of the Group of Secretaries on Education and Social Development incorporates recommendations with an objective for transformative change in various areas of governance which includes:-

- (i) Integrated B.Ed. Course with multiple pathways;
- (ii) Model legal framework for appointment and transfers of teachers to be adopted by States;
- (iii) Measure Annual Learning Outcomes;
- (iv) Global Benchmarking of Learning Outcomes;
- (v) Reintroduce policy of detention in secondary school (States to decide) with suitable alternate safety nets;
- (vi) Include skilling in the definition of education under relevant rules and regulations;
- (vii) Promote English and Science in school education;
- (viii) Operationalise flexibility in curriculum to promote curiosity, creativity and exploration through local innovative content up to 20% (Finnish Model);
- (ix) Introduce basic aptitude test and counseling at Std. 10 for proper career planning;
- (x) Finalize a School Education Quality Index (SEQI) to assess and rank States on their performance;
- (xi) Link schools with vocational training Centres/ITIs in vicinity to provide exposure and enhance aptitude in skills;
- (xii) Promote mobile app based education to supplement learning;
- (xiii) Promote Eklavya Model Residential Schools in blocks with more than 50% ST population;
- (xiv) Promote Skill training in areas dominated by vulnerable sections of society;
- (xv) Promote residential schools (Std. VI – XII) for SC girls in educationally backward blocks;
- (xvi) Ensure barrier free infrastructure in all primary schools;
- (xvii) Pre-Schools for differently abled;
- (xviii) Promote local inhabitants as teachers in tribal areas, if qualified teachers not available;
- (xix) Promote inclusive education in hostel schemes.