

**New degree colleges in Himachal Pradesh**

2757. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy of Government for opening new degree colleges;
- (b) whether Government proposes to open new degree colleges in Himachal Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) to (c) Education being in the concurrent list, the creation of new institutions is the responsibility of both Central Government and the State Governments. New degree colleges are opened mainly by State Governments. However, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) being implemented by the Ministry of HRD with the aim of promoting access, equity and quality, central assistance to States is provided *inter alia* for creation of Model Degree Colleges (MDC) in Educationally Backward Districts (EBDs) of the country where Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education is less than the national average of 12.4% based on 2001 census data.

The Project Approval Board (PAB) of RUSA had approved one Model Degree College each in 2 (two) EBDs viz. Chamba and Sirmour districts in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

**ASHA project in NIOS**

2758. SHRI MAHANT SHAMBHUPRASADJI TUNDIYA:

SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD:

SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data about the ASHA project started in National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS);
- (b) whether Government has any data of the staff employed in ASHA project in NIOS in the country;
- (c) whether NIOS has finalized the ASHA staff in all the States for the ASHA project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA) (a) Yes, Sir. National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 16th July, 2014 with National Health System Resource Centre (NHSRC), the technical wing of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), Govt. of India for certification of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and Accreditation of Associated Agencies in ASHA Training under the National Health Mission (NHM). The activities under this project are:—

- (i) Adaptation of curriculum into 200 hours of Vocational Studies,
- (ii) Develop Certification guidelines for training sites and trainers,
- (iii) Develop a protocol for Recognition of Prior Learning for trainers,
- (iv) Set up of Certification Cell in National and Regional Centres of NIOS,
- (v) Accreditation of District Training sites as AVIs of NIOS,
- (vi) Registration of ASHAs and ASHA Facilitators in the Vocational programme,
- (vii) Develop and print learning study guide for ASHA and ASHA facilitators,
- (viii) Conduct final examination for ASHA and ASHA facilitators and issue certificates.

Further, the details of Receipt and Expenses incurred by NIOS for ASHA Training Project for last three years and current year are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (e) NIOS has engaged twenty three (23) staff members for ASHA Project. The staff is working in the States of U.P., Sikkim, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Tripura, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Delhi, Jharkhand, Punjab, Assam and NIOS Headquarters. For remaining States NIOS is in the process of engaging the staff. The details of staff working in different States are as under:—

State (City)/UT	No. of Staff
Uttar Pradesh (NOIDA)	04 (NIOS Headquarters)
Sikkim (Gangtok)	02
Chhattisgarh (Raipur)	02
Gujarat (Gandhi Nagar)	01
Tripura (Agratala)	02
Uttarakhand (Dehradun)	02
West Bengal (Kolkata)	02
Delhi	02

State (City)/UT	No. of Staff
Jharkhand (Ranchi)	02
Punjab (Chandigarh)	02
Assam (Guwahati)	02

**Statement**

*Details of Receipt and Expenses incurred by NIOS for ASHA Training Project for last three years and current year*

(Figures are in Rupees)

Financial Year	Receipt	Expenses	Closing balance as on 31.07.2017
2014-15	7,64,72,049.00	—	6,64,63,866.00
2015-16	—	28,74,455.00	
2016-17	—	56,10,983.00	
2017-18 (from 01.04.2017 to 30.06.2017)	—	15,22,745.00	

**Continuing literacy programme**

2759. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the States in which the continuing literacy programme is going on;
- (b) the funds earmarked for the programme during 2017-18; and
- (c) the initiatives Government would take to implement skill upgradation and vocational training programmes under the programme in States like Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) There is no such programme as Continuing Literacy Programme. However, the Saakshar Bharat programme, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Adult Education and Skill Development is in operation since October, 2009. The details indicating the names of the States in which the eligible districts of Saakshar Bharat programme are presently covered is given in the Statement (See below).