

(c) whether the Ministry has undertaken a State-wise survey of computer literacy among school children; and

(d) if so, what are the findings of such studies/surveys, with particular reference to Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) Under the centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), there is a provision of Innovation Fund for Computer Aided Learning (CAL) to provide support in upper primary schools for hardware, software, training, maintenance and resource support.

Under the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Schools component of centrally sponsored scheme of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), there is a provision to impart computer literacy and computer enabled learning to children, by establishing ICT labs in government and government aided secondary and higher secondary schools, including hardware, educational softwares and e-contents for teaching as well as engagement of teacher. So far 88,957 schools have been approved under the ICT component of RMSA.

(c) and (d) No such survey of computer literacy among school children has been conducted by the Ministry.

Incidents of molestation in BHU

†1996. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) whether the students had to resort to protest as proper steps had not been taken in the incident of molestation of the girls in Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in the month of September last year; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry in view of failure and insensibility shown in addressing the problem at university administration level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) As informed by the Banaras Hindu University (BHU), the University administration immediately swung into action to address the issues related to the incident and most of the demands of the agitating girl students were also accepted.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The University has taken various steps for further strengthening the security of female students like installation of CCTVs at the sensitive areas, strengthening of patrolling near girls' hostels etc.

UGC panel for maintenance of standards in higher education

1997. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission has constituted a panel to discuss new measures for maintenance of standards in higher education and to look at an overhaul of the present service condition and appointment rules for teachers and other staff in universities and colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the UGC has also issued amended regulation on minimum qualification to appoint teachers and other staff based on 2016 amendment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. University Grants Commission (UGC) has intimated that it has constituted a panel under the Chairpersonship of Prof. Arun Nigavekar, former Chairman, UGC to discuss new measures for maintenance of standards in higher education and to look at an overhaul of the present service condition and appointment rules for teachers and other staff in universities and colleges. Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee are as under:—

- Evaluation of the Academic Performance Indicator (API) Scheme as regards the entry point and career advancement of teachers by taking into account its criticism and suggest suitable improvement/alternatives.
- Evaluation of Ph.D-NET qualifications for entry of teachers and to accordingly suggest a policy for selections.
- Consideration of the problems and issues related to Ad-hoc and Contractual appointments in Central Universities and recommendations to resolve them.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The UGC has notified UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) (3rd Amendment), Regulations, 2016 on 4-5-2016. According to the above, the minimum requirement are a good academic record, 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) at the master's level and qualifying in the