

programmes under which financial assistance is provided to institutions of higher education as well as faculty members working therein. These schemes are meant to encourage quality research in a variety of areas of knowledge across disciplines including revival and promotion of indigenous languages and are as follows:

1. Universities with Potential for Excellence: Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to eligible institutions to move towards excellence.
2. Centre with potential for excellence in particular area: (CPEPA) - This scheme is meant for development of academic/research infrastructure to improve the programmes and activities in a chosen discipline at the selected university.
3. Special Assistance Programme (SAP): Special Assistance Programme is intended to encourage the pursuit of excellence and teamwork in advanced teaching and research as well as to accelerate the realization of international standards in specific fields.
4. Research Projects: UGC provides financial assistance to teachers teaching in universities and colleges to promote excellence in teaching and research.
5. Basic Science Research: This is a scheme with a view to providing an opportunity for continuance of research contributions in Basic Science Research by talented Science and technology scholars/teachers.

Further, Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) on 04.04.2016 which encourages institutions to perform better and build a competitive spirit among institutions resulting in enhancement of their quality, as their performance for NIRF ranking is assessed on parameters like “teaching, learning and resources”, “research and professional practices”, “graduation outcomes”, “outreach and inclusivity” and “perception”.

Appointment of Sevika and Sahayika

†*30. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to fill-up the vacancies of Sevika and Sahayika in every ward of every Panchayat of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) by when the process of appointment would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) to (c) Under the Anganwadi Services [earlier known as Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme], out of the 14 lakh posts for the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and 12.83 lakh posts for the Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) sanctioned by the Government of India to all the States/UTs, 1,06,055 posts of AWWs and 1,16,293 posts of AWHs are lying vacant (as on 01.06.2018). The Sub-Scheme of Anganwadi Services [under Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme] is centrally sponsored scheme and the overall administration, management and monitoring of the scheme is done by the respective State Government/UT Administration. Therefore, all States/UTs have been requested to delegate powers to recruit Anganwadi Workers/ Anganwadi Helpers across the country under Anganwadi Services to District Magistrates/ District Collectors and expedite filling up vacancies on priority basis. From time to time, all the States/UTs have been repeatedly requested to fill up these vacant posts.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Involment of CPSUs in Nuclear power Production

†161. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals finalised and sanctioned during the last three years and current year for establishment of new atomic power plants;
- (b) whether the Central PSUs are being involved in production of nuclear power and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government also proposes to allow non-Government sector to enter in atomic power sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) During the last three years and the current year, the Government has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction of the following proposals:

- (i) Ten indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors each of 700 MW (10x700 MW) in fleet mode.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.