

- (b) if so, the details of JNVs proposed to be established, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Government has made any review of the functioning of JNVs in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) The Navodaya Vidyalaya scheme provides for opening of one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in each district of the country. Opening of new JNVs is a continuous process which depends on the willingness of the concerned State Government/UT Administration to make available requisite suitable land free of cost and making available required temporary building, free of rent to run the Vidyalaya till the permanent building is constructed. However, actual sanction and opening of new JNV depends on availability of funds and approval by the competent authority. One JNV each has been sanctioned in all the districts of the country (as on 31st May, 2014), excluding Tamil Nadu which has not yet accepted the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

(c) and (d) Various studies have been undertaken to evaluate the functioning of the JNVs. Recently, the Programme Evaluation Organization, NITI Aayog had carried out an evaluation study of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti. The study covered organizational aspects such as management of JNVs, coverage of scheme, flow of funds, admission procedure, infrastructure, inspection, medical and health facilities, grievance redressal etc. The study was based on a sample size of 56 JNVs. The findings of the study reveal that the scheme helped in bringing excellence among rural talents in education and different extracurricular activities and inculcating values and learning of life skills in live environment.

Vacant posts of teachers in Central Universities

†2342. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to fill up the vacant posts of teachers in Central Universities within one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) Occurring and filling up

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of vacancies in Central Universities is an ongoing and continuous process. In 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) Regulations, 2010, it is clearly mentioned that all the sanctioned/approved posts in the university system shall be filled up on an urgent basis. The onus of filling up the vacant teaching posts lies on Central Universities which are statutory Autonomous Bodies.

Innovation Fund at secondary education level

†2343. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Innovation fund has been set up at secondary education level for encouraging local innovation in the educationally backward districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey/study has been conducted regarding the utilization of the fund and improvement taken place in the quality of education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) Yes sir, in the Budget for the year 2017-18, an Innovation Fund for Secondary Education has been created to encourage local innovation for ensuring universal access, gender parity and quality improvement, including ICT enabled learning transformation with a special focus on educationally backward districts of the country. The Ministry has so far approved an outlay of ₹ 6974.96 lakh for projects under the innovation fund in 22 States/UTs.

(c) and (d) No sir, survey/study has not been conducted regarding the utilization of the innovation fund as this fund has been created in the current financial year only.

Transfers of professors and employees of Central Universities

†2344. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to transfer professors and other employees of Central Universities to other Central Universities like Government employees;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.