

(f) All 22 JNVs established in Andhra Pradesh have permanent buildings and computer facilities.

Opening of IITs and IIMs

†*379. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to open new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), in order to encourage higher studies;

(b) if so, the details of such institutes that would be opened, State-wise; and

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address delivered to the Nation on the occasion of the 60th Independence Day has, *inter-alia*, announced the setting up of eight new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and seven new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs). Based on the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister under the Chairmanship of Prof. C.N.R. Rao, the Government have already decided to establish three new IITs, one each in Bihar in the East, Rajasthan in the West and Andhra Pradesh in the South, during the Eleventh Plan period. Decision on the location of the remaining Institutes has not yet been taken.

Digitization of study material

*380. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to digitize the study material for higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what would be the financial implications for this scheme;

(d) which would be the nodal agencies to select the relevant material for digitization; and

(e) whether the scheme would also include the periodicals, as it may involve recurrent cost?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) A scheme to develop curriculum based video courses and web-based e-courses, called the National Programme for Technology Enhanced Learning

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(NPTEL) with total outlay of Rs. 20.47 crores was initiated in 2003. The scheme of NPTEL was implemented jointly by the Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The Central Government has also set up the “Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Sciences and Technology and All India Council for Technical Education (INDEST-AICTE) Consortium” for providing funds to Centrally funded institutions for access to electronic resources and databases for which Rs.22.00 crores was released in each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 and Rs.23.00 crores have been provided for release during 2007-08. Similarly, the Consortium of Educational Communication (CEC), an Inter-University Centre of the UGC and the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) also digitize relevant study materials from time to time for access by students. In addition, the Information for Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre which is also an Autonomous Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC) coordinate the UGC-INFONET programme linking 149 universities for exchange of information including Electronic Journals (e-Journals) which are made available to these institutions under the programme.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Installation of Tsunami and earthquake identification centres

2759. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any specific plan to set up Tsunami and earthquake identification centres in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the places where these are likely to be set up;
- (d) the details of the seismic and flood activities in the peninsular region of the country during the last three years; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to combat the situation arising out of sudden floods and Tsunami activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The project on Establishment of National Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in the Indian Ocean was approved in October, 2005. The system is being set up at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad. An interim Tsunami Warning System is already working on 24X7 basis. The operational system will be in place by end of September, 2007. To detect changes in water level due to tsunami, 12 bottom level pressure recorders are being installed in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea and 50 tide gauges along the coastline of the country.

A Real Time Seismic Monitoring Network (RTSMN) is also being set up, with receiving stations at Hyderabad and Delhi, to detect, locate and monitor earthquakes. India Meteorological Department (IMD) is maintaining a countrywide network of 51 seismological observatories for monitoring the seismic activity.