

University College of Engineering combined with the University College of Technology, both belonging to Osmania University, Hyderabad.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, on the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister under the chairmanship of Prof. C.N.R. Rao, the Government have decided to establish three new UTs, one each in Bihar in the East, Rajasthan in the West and Andhra Pradesh in the South during the 11th Plan period. There is no proposal at present to establish a Greenfield UT in Orissa. The Government has not approved upgradation of the extension campus of UT Kharagpur at Bhubaneswar.

Expansion of UTs and IIMs

198. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that institutes like UTs and IIMs have not expanded even in three-four decades after they were established, whereas institutions like Harvard and Stanford are continuously expanding;

(b) if so, the manner in which the reservation of OBCs would be effected there without curtailing the number of seats for general categories; and

(c) whether they would be given special grants for proposed expansion or they have to generate funds from their own resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Indian Institutes of Technology (UTs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have, over a period of time, expanded in all spheres of activities viz. number of courses, number of departments/centres, students' strength in under-graduate/post-graduate levels, laboratories and building infrastructure, etc. and acquired world class status.

(b) and (c) The issue regarding OBC reservation in the central institutes of higher learning is presently pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and, therefore, sub-judice.

Increase in Universities

199. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Knowledge Commission has recommended that the country needs to increase the number of universities from 350 to 1,500 by 2015, while currently, only seven per cent of the 19-24 year old population enters higher education;

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to raise the number from seven per cent to 15 per cent and by when this target would be achieved;

(c) whether Government have fixed any criteria to find out that quality education is imparted at higher level;

- (d) the number of universities conforming to the criteria of quality education; and
- (e) whether in view of obvious resource crunch, public private partnership system could be a workable alternative for establishing centers of academic excellence?

THIS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir, However, the existing Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for the relevant age group is 9.7% (2006-07).

(b) It is proposed that enrolment in the higher education be increased to achieve the targeted GER of 15% by the end of the XIth Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) The UGC provides grants to those Institutions, which meet the minimum standards prescribed by it. In addition, the UGC provides assistance to Universities, Departments/Centres and Colleges with potential for excellence. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), an inter-university Centre of the UGC, accredits Universities and Colleges. The NAAC has so far assessed 50% of the Universities and 20% of the Colleges. Accreditation by NAAC is not compulsory.

(e) Private not-for-profit participation in higher education is permissible under the national policy.

New Central Universities in the country

200. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI PR. RAJAN:

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

(a) whether, with a view to link higher education with the emerging knowledge economy, Government propose to have 30 Central Universities, 14 of which would deliver world class education, by following Jawaharlal Nehru University as the model;

(b) if so, whether the proposed Central Universities would adopt a common entrance test, in order to bring the element of uniformity;

(c) the present Central share, in percentage, of the total Government expenditure on higher education in percentage, to State Government's contribution; and

(d) the progress Government have made so far in this direction, indicating the likely budgetary allocations during 2007 to 2011?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) It is proposed to establish 30 Central Universities during the XIth Plan and the first two years of the XIIth Plan period, subject to the Plan being finalized.

(b) While a common entrance test would be desirable, in keeping with the NCMP commitment of the autonomy, any such decision would be taken by the concerned Universities after they come into existence.

(c) An estimated 20% of the budgeted expenditure on higher education is met currently by the Central Government.

(d) Action for establishment, in the first phase, of one Central University in each of the 16 States which do not have a Central University so far has already been