

and not retrospectively. Further, in the cases which are referred by the Constitutional Courts, the entry of CBI cannot be denied by that State as these do not require the consent of the State.

#### **Non-implementation of Merit Scholarship Scheme**

498. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2484 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd January, 2019 and state:

(a) the reasons why the Ministry has not implemented the Merit Scholarship Scheme for top 2,000 JEE rank holders during 2017-18 and 2018-19;

(b) whether the Ministry would implement the above scheme during 2019-20; 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) While increasing the tuition fee from ₹ 70,000/- to ₹ 1,25,000/- per student per annum for undergraduate programmes of the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIST), Shibpur, from the academic year 2016-17, the Council of the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) decided to give complete fee waiver to students whose family income is less than ₹ 1.00 lakh per annum and 2/3rd of the tuition fee waiver for students with family income less than ₹ 5.00 lakh per annum in addition to complete tuition fee exemptions granted to SC/ST/PH students. This resulted in decrease in internal revenue generation of NITs and IIST.

In view of this, the Standing Committee of the Council of NITSER on 23rd November, 2016 recommended scrapping of Merit Scholarship Scheme. Though the Scheme is not implemented during 2017-18 and 2018-19, its implementation in 2019-20 depends on a final decision on implementation of Merit Scholarship Scheme by the Council of NITSER.

#### **Implementation of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan**

499. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for implementation of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan during 2018-19;