Establishment of National Testing Agency

2177900.98

2636637.15

Total

500. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any due diligence was done to determine the rationale for establishing a National Testing Agency (NTA) for conducting entrance and eligibility examinations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether all higher educational institutions would be required to use NTA's services to conduct their entrance and/or eligibility examinations; and
- (c) whether any reimbursement or subsidy would be given to the institutions for any losses incurred by them by a result of outsourcing their entrance and eligibility examinations through NTA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) In pursuance of the Budget Announcement 2017-18, the Government has established National Testing Agency (NTA) as an autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization to conduct

those entrance examinations which were hitherto being conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). Extensive consultations were made with the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India as well as other stakeholders both from Central and State Government through a national workshop held on 01.09.2017. NTA may also conduct other entrance examinations entrusted to it by other agencies of the Central and State Government. NTA has successfully conducted UGC (NET) in December, 2018, JEE (MAIN), CMAT and GPAT in January, 2019. There is no provision as of now for reimbursement or subsidy to be provided to the institutions for any losses incurred by them.

Fellowships to students studying abroad

- 501. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the steps taken to facilitate admission of Indian students in educational institutes in foreign countries;
- (b) what efforts Government has made to introduce new fellowships for meritorious Indian students to study abroad; and
- (c) the details of fellowships offered to Indian students with Government collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) Indian students seek admission in educational institutes in foreign countries, based on their individual choice and preference. For the Indian students to study abroad, the Government is implementing the following schemes:—

- (i) National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe Students: The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs wherein financial assistance is provided to the meritorious Scheduled Tribe students for pursuing Master level courses, Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral Research Programmes in foreign universities in the field of Engineering, Technology and Science.
- (ii) National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Caste Students: The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment under which financial assistance is provided to the meritorious Scheduled Caste students for pursuing Master level courses and Ph.D. in foreign universities in the field of Pure and Applied Sciences, Social Science, Agricultural Science etc.