

- **Digital learning Initiatives by CBSE:** SARANSH is a tool for comprehensive self review and analysis for CBSE affiliated schools and parents. It enables them to analyse students' performance in order to take remedial measures. SARANSH brings schools, teachers and parents closer, so that they can monitor the progress of students and help them improve their performance. It is currently available for standards IX - XII and provides a comprehensive overview of standard X performance since 2007 and standard XII performance since 2009, till the current academic session.
- **Classroom Centric digital intervention:** A scheme Operation Digital Board (ODB) for establishing Smart Classrooms in classes IX to XII of Government and Government aided schools is under consideration.

**Common modular entrance examinations for college admissions**

1471. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to hold a common modular entrance examinations for college admissions for undergraduate courses in various universities in the country;
- (b) whether it also proposes parallel reforms in the assessment procedures in class 10th and 12th board examinations; and
- (c) if so, the details of the proposed policy and the time-frame for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Committee for draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K Kasturirangan, in their draft submitted to the Ministry on 31.05.2019, has stated that the principles for university entrance examinations must be similar; the National Testing Agency (NTA) will work to offer high quality common modular entrance examinations multiple times each year in various subjects, from logic, quantitative reasoning, and languages, to more specialised subject examinations in the sciences, arts, and vocational subjects, so that most universities may use these common entrance examinations, rather than having hundreds of universities devising their own examinations - thereby reducing the burden on both students and universities and colleges. The advantage of such a system is that students will be able to choose the range of subjects that they are interested in, and each university will be able to see each student's individual subject portfolio, and admit students into their programmes based on individual interests and talents.

Further, it has been stated in the draft that all examinations such as board and entrance examinations will not be as "high stakes", by allowing students best of multiple (*i.e.* at least two) attempts.

The draft National Education Policy has been uploaded in the Ministry of Human Resource Development website for seeking comments of stakeholders.

### **Grants to universities**

1472. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes run by the University Grants Commission (UGC)/Government for grant of funds to the Central/State universities for development of infrastructure, basic facilities, research projects, etc.;

(b) the details of funds, grants allocated/released by Government/UGC under its various schemes during each of the last three years, State/UT and scheme-wise;

(c) the number of requests/proposals received by Government/UGC from various States for providing sufficient grants for universities and colleges in the States, State-wise; and

(d) the other steps being taken by Government to improve quality of higher education in the States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) As informed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the details of various schemes run by the UGC/Government for grant of funds to the Central/State Universities and Deemed to be Universities for development of infrastructure, basic facilities, research projects, etc. are available in Statement-I (*See below*).

The State Universities are also supported under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). RUSA, provides support to the State Universities under three components *viz.* Infrastructure Grants to Universities, Enhancing Quality and Excellence in select State Universities and Research, Innovation and Quality Improvement.

(b) The details of funds released by UGC to States/UTs under the various schemes during the last three years are given in Statement-I, II, III and IV respectively.