

(c) whether Government would carry out comprehensive amendment in this plan keeping the poor students in mind?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Yes, Sir. The Banks disburse education loans under the Model Education Loan Scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA). As per the guidelines laid down by IBA, simple interest on education loan becomes due from the very date it is released.

(b) Repayment of education loan starts after one year, post the study period, so that the student is capable of repaying the loan. During this study period plus one year, the interest is not paid by student but by the Government through the interest subsidy Scheme on education loan to the concerned bank. Thus, during the study period the student is not required to pay any interest.

(c) Currently, there is no such proposal.

#### **Enrolment of girls in higher studies**

684. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conceived any special programme to increase the enrolment of girl students from rural areas in higher studies across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Government is committed towards encouraging girl students for taking up higher studies. Various schemes, as detailed below, are being implemented for the same:—

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has two specific schemes for promotion of Women's Studies in Universities and Colleges namely:
  - (i) Development of Indian Studies in Indian Universities and Colleges and
  - (ii) Capacity Building and Women Managers in Higher Education.
- For supporting single girl child, special scholarship schemes are there namely:
  - (1) Post-Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarship for Single Girl Child and
  - (2) Swami Vivekananda Single Girl Child Scholarship for Research in Social Science.

- UGC has special schemes for promotion of women hostels in Universities and Colleges and establishment of Day Care Centres therein.
  - UGC has provided support for eight exclusive women universities.
  - The All India Council for Technical Education is implementing the PRAGATI scholarship scheme for assistance of girls pursuing technical education.
  - To improve female enrolment in the Indian Institute of Technology (IITs), the Government has decided to increase female enrolment in B. Tech. Programmes of IITs from the current 8% to 14% in 2018-19, 17% in 2019-20 and 20% in 2020-21 by creating supernumerary seats.
  - The Government has also decided to increase female enrolment from existing 14% to 20% over a period of 2-4 years by creating supernumerary seats in undergraduate programmes of National Institute of Technology and Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur.
- (c) Does not arise.

#### **Education of differently-abled students in Gujarat**

†685. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is running any scheme for the education of differently-abled people in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the places where arrangements have been made for the education of differently-abled people under this scheme and the schemes under which education is being provided;
- (c) whether action on the proposals received from the States in this regard is delayed; and
- (d) if so, the response of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Central Government is running an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha from the year 2018-19, which aims to look at the

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.