Written Answers to		[5 December, 20	019] Unstari	Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Colleges	P.G. Girls College, Jashpur Nagar			
19.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government Badri Prasad College, Arang, Raipur	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
20.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government L.C.S. College, Ambagarh Chowki, Rajnandgaon	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
21.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Govt. College, Dhamdha, Durg	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
22.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	S.G.G Government P G College, Kurudh, Dhamtari	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
23.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government Rajmohini Devi Girls College, Ambikapur, Surguja	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2

Testing the quality of education in English medium schools

1997. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism devised by Government to test the quality of education imparted in English medium schools in the country;
- (b) whether Government has any basis to conduct comparative study of schools in the country with those of developed countries;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government proposes to promote critical thinking and develop practical skills among the school children; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts National Achievement Survey at grade 3,5, 8 and 10 to find learning level of students studying in Government and Government Aided Schools on sample basis, covering all mediums of instruction across the country.

- (b) and (c) Government of India (GoI) has signed an agreement with Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to participate in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2021. PISA is a triennial international survey that aims to evaluate education systems worldwide by testing skills and knowledge of 15 year old students in the subjects of Mathematics, Science and Reading.
- (d) and (e) The Central Government has taken the following initiatives for promoting critical thinking and developing practical skills among school children:—
 - (i) Under Samagra Shiksha, to ensure inclusive and equal education at all levels, support is provided to the States and Union Territories inter alia for implementation of Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA) to motivate and engage children in Science, Mathematics and Technology and 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat' (PBBB) for teaching reading, writing and mathematics in elementary classes, and vocational education in an integrated manner in schools.
 - (ii) To ensure competencies, the Central rules to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 have been amended and classwise, subject-wise Learning Outcomes have been shared with all States and Union Territories.
 - (iii) Training has been provided to untrained in-service elementary teachers.
 - (iv) In order to provide e-learning material, different facilities like e- PATHSHALA, DIKSHA portal, SWAYAM (Study Webs to Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds), SWAYAM PRABHA DTH Channels have been made available by the Ministry.
 - (v) An integrated Teacher Training Programme titled NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) has been launched.
 - (vi) The Government of India has decided to participate in the Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) to be conducted by the

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in 2021.

- (vii) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has undertaken various examination reforms to promote competencies and quality of learning:
 - a. Change in design of question papers with nearly 33% increase in internal choice in all major subjects for classes X and XII and introduction of objective type questions. It has been decided to include 10% competency based Questions in the annual examination of class 10 in the current year.
 - b. Experiential learning has been introduced from 2019-20 to promote self thinking, creativity and effective study skills among students.
 - The Board has developed a training manual on Critical and Creative Thinking Skills for teachers.
 - d. The Board has also published Life Skills manuals which include Critical and Creative Thinking Skills.

Spending on research and innovation

1998. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is spending only 0.7 per cent of the GDP on research and innovation in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to increase the spending on research and innovation in the country;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes. As per information received from Principal Scientific Advisor, expenditure on Research & Development as a percentage share in National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 0.7% in 2004-05, 0.7% in 2008-09, 0.6% in 2012-13 and 0.7% in 2016-17.