

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (f) The Government has recently launched the Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme- DHRUV to mentor and nurture talented children to enrich their skills and knowledge so that they can realise their full potential and contribute to society. The programme was launched on 10th October, 2019 at ISRO, Bengaluru with active participation of State Governments.

Selection of 30 students of Science group and 30 students of Performing Arts group has been made by an Advisory Committee headed by the Principal Scientific Advisor in consultation with the Department of Science and Technology, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT), Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) and Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ministry of Culture. An estimated amount of ₹ 3.98 Crore has been allocated for the purpose this year.

All the 60 students were selected from among the students selected under various competitions/examinations i.e. National Talent Search Examination (NTSE), Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)- Manak, Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY), Science Olympiad, Mathematics Olympiad, Kala Utsav and Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme etc.

During the 14 days programme, structured activities were carried out for students of Performing Arts group at National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi and for students of Science group at IIT-Delhi and during evenings, combined activities for both groups were organised. The students were mentored and nurtured by renowned mentors from NT- Delhi, Atal Innovation Mission, NCERT, CCRT etc.

During the valedictory function on 23rd October, 2019, projects of science groups on carbon dioxide sequestration, design and fabrication of nanoscale devices, design and fabrication of novel and affordable particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and carbon dioxide sensors were demonstrated by the students. Students from the Performing Arts group presented cultural performances and a joint choir of all 60 students was presented.

Further, the Government of India has recently enhanced the number of scholarships under National Talent Search scheme from 1000 to 2000 for a period of two years from 2018-19 to 2019-20, to encourage talented children to enrich their skills and knowledge.

Telugu Study Centre in Nellore district

1212. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has decided to set up Telugu Study Centre in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and activities that centre is going to take up for promotion of Telugu language; and

(c) what steps Ministry has taken/propose to take for the centre having its own building and other infrastructure and how much time will the Ministry take to provide all necessary facilities for the Study Centre?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Telugu has been shifted from Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore to Nellore in Andhra Pradesh. The activities of the Centre is to do research, documentation and propagation of classical language. This includes identification of sources of classical language, procure manuscripts, undertake digitisation and publish books related to Classical Telugu.

The Ministry has requested to Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide five acres of land at Nellore for construction of permanent campus for establishing the Telugu Centre.

Scrapping of no-detention policy by States

1213. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have so far scrapped the no-detention policy in schools;

(b) whether Government is planning any other ways to boost the performances, particularly in classes 5th to 8th in schools;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any Central Committee has been set up to review the implementation and its impact of the no-detention policy?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The States of Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Punjab, Tripura, Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand have modified the rules in terms of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2019 regarding no detention policy.