162	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]		Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Punjab	217	217	245	22
29.	Rajasthan	0	334	29	73
30.	Sikkim	31	31	61	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	10500	10500	10531	413
32.	Telangana	1550	1650	1582	597
33.	Tripura	0	0	33	59
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3221	0	3255	0
35.	Uttarakhand	79	75	114	190
36.	West Bengal	25000	43121	25036	477
	Total	572656	561425	573322	12857

Source: PMS

## Finalisation of the NEP

1675. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Education Policy (NEP) has been finalised or is still in the process of finalisation;
  - (b) approximately by when would be the final version of the NEP be published;
- (c) whether Government is considering piloting certain proposals before finalising them;
  - (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the plan for outlining the operational and financial implications of Early Childhood Care and Education that was supposed to be ready by the end of 2019 as per the draft NEP, is ready; and
  - (f) if not, the reasons therefor and the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (f) The Government is in the process of formulating

a New Education Policy. In this regard, a Committee for the Draft National Education Policy was constituted in June 2017 under the Chairmanship of Dr. K Kasturirangan, which submitted its report to the Ministry on 31st May, 2019. The Draft NEP 2019 was uploaded on MHRD's website at https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload files/mhrd/files/ Draft\_NEP\_2019\_EN\_Revised.pdf and also at https://innovate.mygov.in/list-nep/ to elicit comments and suggestions from the various stakeholders. Further, letters were written to States/UTs Governments and Government of India Ministries inviting their views and comments on DNEP 2019. An Education Dialogue with Hon'ble MPs of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Karnataka and Odisha on three consecutive days *i.e* on 31.07.2019, 01.08.2019 and 02.08.2019. Two meetings, one with State Education Secretaries of School Education and another with State Secretaries of Higher and Technical Education was held on 09.07.2019 and 08.08.2019 respectively. Around 2 lakh, suggestions on the Draft National Education Policy have been received from various stakeholders. A special meeting of CABE on National Education Policy was held on 21.09.2019, to discuss the National Education Policy. There has been wide publicity and positive feedback from all stakeholders. Accordingly, based on all feedback/ comments received from various stakeholders on the Draft NEP, the Ministry is in the process of finalizing the National Education Policy, 2020.

## Promotion of online higher education

1676. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken a policy decision to promote online programmes and courses in higher education sector, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether private foreign investment will also be allowed in the online interventions in higher education sector, if so, the safeguards proposed by Government to ensure affordability of higher education for students; and
- (c) how many Universities in the country are currently offering online courses at graduation and post-graduation level and university-wise details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) With a view to promote On-line programmes and courses in higher education sector, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018 on