†1672. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any time-frame to implement New Education Policy;
- (b) if so, whether the apprehensions of all the stakeholders have been removed after discussing with them prior to its implementation; and
- (c) whether Government would give special emphasis on the development of skilled human resource in New Education Policy so that eligibility of educated youth for employment would be assured beforehand?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Government is in the process of formulating a new National Education Policy for meeting the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science, technology, arts and industry. For this purpose, wide ranging consultations were undertaken at multiple levels of online, expert / thematic and grassroots from village to State, Zonal levels and the National level. 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 Draft National Education Policy 2019 (DNEP 2019) 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 & Odisha on three consecutive days i.e on 31.07.2019, 01.08.2019 & 02.08.2019. Two meetings with State Education Secretaries of School Education and another with State Secretaries of Higher & Technical Education was held on 09.07.2019 and 08.08.2019 respectively. Around 2 lakhs 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

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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.

Caste-based discrimination in universities

1673. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) number of cases of caste-based discrimination reported by UGC in various university/colleges in past three years and current year, year-wise;
- (b) number of Central Universities and other Centrally Funded Higher Educational Institutions that have established Equal Opportunity Cells, as mandated by UGC;
 - (c) State-wise details thereof;
- (d) whether any action has been taken to ensure universities that have not established cells to do so in a time-bound manner; and
- (e) the details of steps taken/proposed by the Ministry to address caste-based discrimination of students, teaching and non-teaching staff in higher educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Year-wise cases of caste-based discrimination in various Universities/Institutions reported by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in past three years are as follows:—

Sl. No. Year		Case reported
1.	2015-16	146
2.	2016-17	67
3.	2017-18	82

- (b) and (c) State-wise list of Central Universities and Deemed to be Universities that have established Equal Opportunity Cell is given in the Statement (*See* below).
- (d) and (e) The UGC has requested Vice-Chancellors of all Universities for establishment of Equal Opportunity Cell vide letter dated 29.01.2016. Further, the