

(e) the details of steps proposed to upgrade the standards of education and discipline in all the universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), at present there are 388 University level Institutions recognized under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956.

(b) to (e) The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), which is an Inter-University Centre of the UGC, has been entrusted with the responsibility of assessing and accrediting the Institutions in accordance with the guidelines prescribed for the purpose. The UGC has taken several steps to upgrade the standards of education by providing grants to eligible Universities and Colleges under its various schemes for quality improvement and excellence, such as (i) Universities with Potential for Excellence (ii) Colleges with Potential for Excellence (iii) Special Assistance Programme (SAP) (iv) Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure in Science and Technology (ASIST) (v) Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure in Humanities and Social Science (ASHISS) (vi) Major and Minor Research Projects (vii) Fellowships for pursuing M.Phil and Ph.D programmes etc.

Revenue collected through education cess

†1531. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of revenue collected by Government through education cess;
- (b) on which educational programmes the amount of education cess is spent;
- (c) whether the States with the literacy less than national average are provided special assistance from this amount; and
- (d) the amount allocated to Madhya Pradesh Government from this amount during 2005, 2006 and 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Education Cess @ 2% on major Central Taxes was levied through Finance (No.2) Act, 2004. As per information received from Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, the following amount of Education Cess has been collected in respect of Direct and Indirect Taxes during the last three years:

| (Rs. in crore) | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Year | Education cess on Direct Taxes | Education cess on Indirect Taxes | Total |
| 2004-05 | 1787.39 | 2514.00 | 4301.39 |
| 2005-06 | 3290.07 | 4424.00 | 7714.07 |
| 2006-07* | 4025.00* | 4642.00* | 8667.00 * |

* Figures are provisional.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (d) The proceeds of Education Cess, credited into Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK) are utilised exclusively for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme. Expenditure on SSA and MDM is incurred from PSK after funds provided by way of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) are fully utilised. No allocation is made separately to States against the Education Cess. Assistance under PSK is released to States as per the schematic pattern and budgetary allocations for SSA and MDM.

Information regarding Central assistance released to State of Madhya Pradesh under SSA and MDM scheme is as follows:—

| (Rs. in crore) | | |
|----------------|---------|--------|
| Year | SSA | MDM |
| 2005-06 | 771.73 | 261.97 |
| 2006-07 | 1108.79 | 497.18 |

Setting up of IISER in Andhra Pradesh

1532. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to set up an Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the reasons for delay in setting up of the above institute; and
- (e) by when the above institute is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e) A proposal for setting up of an Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh was received from the Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh. On the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM), the Government of India have set up three Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), one each at Pune, Kolkata and Mohali. At present, the Government is not considering setting up one such Indian Institute of Science Education Research (IISER) at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh.

Educational schemes for Punjab

1533. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases for grant submitted by Punjab Government for various educational schemes relating to higher education, pending with the University Grants Commission as on 31st March, 2007, under various heads; and