

Proposal to spend six per cent of GDP for Education

†*180. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to spend six per cent of gross domestic product of the country on education in 1986;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to implement this proposal during 1986 to 2003; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government as well as the progress made in this direction upto 2003?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) envisages that the outlay on education will be stepped up to ensure that during the VIII Five Year Plan and onwards it will uniformly exceed 6 per cent of the national income. It has not so far been possible to achieve this level of outlay due to constraint on resources and other competing priorities. However, there has been progressive increase in the Central Five Year Plan allocations for the education sector, from the year 1985-86 onwards, as may be seen from the Statement below:

(Rs. in crore)

Five Year Plan		Central Plan Allocation
VII	(1985-1990)	1938.64
VIM	(1992-1997)	7443.00
IX	(1997-2002)	24908.38
X	(2002-2007)	43825.00

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.