

Planning Commission in its deliberations and others from time to time recommended measures for removal of restrictions in MMPO.

Taking in view all suggestions in this regard the Government of India notified the Milk and Milk Product (amendment) Order, 2002 on 26th March, 2002.

Franchises of foreign degree granting institutions

***473. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:**

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

(a) whether UGC is taking any step to regulate franchises of foreign degree granting institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to control private funding of higher education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission has framed draft Regulations for entry into and operation of foreign universities/ educational institutions in India. The draft Regulations are under consideration of the Government.

(c) Certain policy guidelines have been enunciated by the Government to ensure a fair fee structure in the Private Unaided Educational Institutions imparting Higher and technical Education including Management Education. UGC has also notified the Regulations to regulate admission and levy of fees in private unaided professional educational institutions, self-financing deemed universities and joint venture universities.

Spreading Sanskrit through electronic media

***474. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister had outlined the ultimate goal of easy-to-learn Sanskrit programme, at the recently held meeting of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan;

(b) if so, the details of the ways to achieve the goal;

(c) whether Government would take the help of computerisation, IT wave, DD and AIR to spread Sanskrit;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At the meeting of the Shasi Parishad of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan on 27-3-2002, the need to popularize Sanskrit through easy, accessible and modern methods was emphasized. Apart from formal teaching in several schools, colleges and other institutions, it is proposed to launch different schemes to achieve the objective, including production of easy-to-learn reading material, digital material, use of Internet, opening of Non-Formal Sanskrit Education Centres, etc.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Several measures have already been taken to popularize Sanskrit through information technology.

1. Government has sanctioned grants for the establishment of computer centres and the development of infrastructure to several Sanskrit universities, institutions and research establishments.

2. Sanskrit has been found to be a language which is particularly compatible with computers. Specific projects linking the two have been carried out at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Bangalore, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Tirupati etc.

3. Further, the SANSKNET project of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Tirupati will make available on the Internet basic material for the study of Sanskrit. Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan has also devised graduation and secondary—school level programmes on the computer for all its 8 Sanskrit Vidyapithas located in different parts of the country.

4. The Sanskrit and Science exhibition of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Tirupati has proved to be very popular. It effectively links the language with several scientific disciplines like Physics, Botany, Chemistry, Mathematics, etc.

5. Central Board of Secondary Education has introduced Communicative Sanskrit Language teaching in the schools affiliated to it across the country. In addition it has prepared Teachers' book and guidelines and has conducted approximately 30 training programmes and has trained over 2000 teachers.

6. Sanskrit educational programmes for television and radio as well as for the Indira Gandhi National Open University are also being planned.

7. University Grants Commission also has special assistance programme for conducting Saral Sanskrit Teaching Courses for promotion of Sanskrit. Under the scheme so far 500 centres have been opened.

8. Besides this, several State Governments and Union Territory Governments such as Delhi have undertaken programmes for popularizing Sanskrit Language. Delhi Sanskrit Academy, Delhi conducts various competitions in Shloka Path, Nibandh Lekhan and Udyaman Kavis etc. Some of the State Governments, like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh have set up Sanskrit Academy/Parishad for popularizing Sanskrit.

Encouraging women in the field of Science and Technology

†*475. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given vital importance to encouragement of women in science and technology, in the Tenth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the facilities to be provided to encourage women folks in science and technology during this Plan period; and

(d) the funds earmarked to be spent for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Government is presently attaching vital importance to the encouragement of women in Science & Technology and is implementing various schemes such as Science & Technology for women, Biotechnology based programme for women, Golden Jubilee Biotech Park for women, and Women Bio Scientist Award. The total outlay of these schemes during the Ninth plan had been Rs. 1574 lakhs. In the Tenth plan it is proposed to encourage women working in the field of Science & Technology through special incentives such as Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards. Additionally, it is also proposed to introduce special gender sensitive features in these schemes

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.