

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:44
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
QUALITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Minister of Human Resource Development has expressed concern at the lack of quality in education, particularly in higher education;
- (b) if so, the main reasons for the same;
- (c) whether Planning Commission had also expressed concern at the quality of higher education; and
- (d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a)&(b): While referring to the declining public investment in higher education over the years adversely affecting the university system, attention of participants at the Conference of Vice Chancellors was drawn to the need for remedial measures for strengthening higher education.

(c)&(d): A substantial increase in Plan allocation has been made in the XI Plan for the expansion of higher education, for setting up of institutions such as Central Universities in uncovered States, establishment of World Class Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology and Schools for Planning and Architecture. Expansion of capacity of the existing institutions, incentivising State Governments for increasing State outlays on higher education, strengthening of science based research in Universities, frequent updating of curricula, introduction of semester system, Faculty Improvement Programmes and other reforms are also proposed for being taken up during the XI Plan for improving the quality and relevance of higher education.