

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:408
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
PROMOTION OF SCIENCE EDUCATION
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the condition of Science Education is in a very poor state thereby dissuading students from taking it at degree level ;
- (b) if so,whether the National Knowledge Commission had recommended that radical changes be made in Science Education and a National Science and Maths Mission be started to make India a centre of scientific knowledge;and
- (c) if so, the facts thereof and the steps taken by the Government to encourage/promote Science education in the country ?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The National Knowledge Commission in its report on "Attracting talented students to Maths and Science",has formulated a set of recommendations,including setting up of a Science and Mathematics Mission.The views on the recommendations have not been finalized.Keeping in view the declining quality and quantum of scientific research in India,a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.M. Sharma was constituted by the Central Government for basic Scientific Research in universities.The recommendations of the Task Force has been accepted by Government,and the Task Force has been converted to an Empowered Committee to implement the recommendations.The University Grants Commission has taken initiative for augmenting research and teaching resources of universities.