

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2223

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010

GER IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar;Singh Shri Ganesh;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether access to higher education in India measures in terms of Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India's GER of about 10 per cent compares poorly with the world average of 23 per cent;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to enhance the GER to 21 per cent in Twelfth Five Year Plan; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) measures the number of students enrolled for higher studies as a percentage of population in the age cohort group of 18-24 year. The GER for higher education in the country is estimated to be 12.4%.

(c) & (d): According to the information available from the website of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the GER for the world on average is 26%.

(e) & (f) : The Eleventh Five Year Plan document targets the achievement of GER of 21% by the terminal year of the Twelfth Plan with an interim target of 15% by the end of the Eleventh Plan. During the Eleventh Five Year Plan, establishment of Central Universities in hitherto uncovered States has been envisaged. The strategy for increasing enrolment includes establishment of new institutions of higher learning in the Central sector such as Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, National Institutes of Technology and Schools of Planning and Architecture, incentivizing States for establishment of new institutions by establishment of model degree colleges in districts where the GER is below the national level and expansion of existing institutions by policy interventions and schemes aimed at increasing access and opportunities for pursuit of higher education.