

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6535
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
PROMOTION OF BASIC SCIENCE
Pakirappa Shri S.

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to encourage fundamental sciences like mathematics, physics and chemistry at degree and post-graduate level in every college; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A Task Force under Prof. M.M. Sharma had made recommendations for strengthening basic scientific research in universities and colleges and the same has been converted to an Empowered Committee to monitor the implementation of its recommendations. An amount of Rs.1200 crore has been allocated for implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force in the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12). An amount of Rs. 475.00 Crore has already been provided to University Grants Commission (UGC) in the three year period from 2007 to 2010 for the purpose. On the recommendations of the Empowered Committee, UGC has extended financial assistance to the Science Departments of various universities/ institutions under the UGC approved Special Assistance Programme (SAP) Scheme. A fellowship programme namely the "Dr. D. S. Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellowship" has also been introduced to award fellowships for advanced studies and research in the areas of sciences.