

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:512

ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011

QUALITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken adequate steps to improve the quality of education in each State of the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to meet the challenges of public funding for higher education;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds spent for this purpose during the above period; and
- (e) the action plan prepared for the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan for each State universities?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) Education as a subject on the Concurrent List, is the shared responsibility of both Central and State Governments. The responsibility of school education lies primarily with the State Governments. It is the constant endeavor of the Government to promote qualitative improvement in education to make the education employment oriented. The Government has established various Boards of Studies which advise on academic matters falling in its area of concern, standards, model curricula, model facilities and structure of courses. Government has taken major initiatives in academic and institutional reforms in higher education sector which marks a paradigm shift in the development of higher education. Government aims to set up a National Commission/Council for Higher Education and Research as an apex body for determination, coordination and maintenance of standards and promotion of higher education and research. It also aims to have mandatory accreditation system in place of the present voluntary system of accreditation, to promote quality. The National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) aims to embed vocational education in the educational system providing for horizontal and vertical mobility for youth to seamlessly move between general and vocational education.

Government also aims to curb adoption of unfair practices by technical and medical educational institutions and universities in matters related to charging of capitation fee, making admissions not according to merit, making false claims on availability of infrastructure, faculty or recognition of the institution etc. The Educational Tribunals Bill introduced in the Parliament provides for a two tier system to deal with disputes between students, teachers, institutions and regulators. The government has also introduced in the Parliament, a Bill to regulate the entry of foreign education providers. The Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education Act, 2009 has been enacted which envisages significant reforms in the Elementary Education sector specially with reference to admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by all children in schools which conform to specified norms and standards.

(c) to (e) The National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) encourages non-governmental and voluntary efforts in education, while preventing establishment of institutions which intend to Commercialize Education. The amount allocated and the actual expenditure for the Department of Higher Education during the last three years are as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Plan allocation	Actual Expenditure
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2008-09	7600.00	6711.98
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2009-10	9600.00	7794.58
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2010-11	11000.00	9356.77
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2011-12	13103.00	
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The State Universities do not come under the administrative control of Department of Higher Education.