

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:318

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011

FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR

Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been permitted in the higher education sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of FDI made in the country so far;
- (c) the percentage of the total investment earmarked/utilised for research purposes;
- (d) whether the research work is not being given due importance by the universities set up with foreign assistance as well as the universities established by foreigners in India;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to give proper attention to research work in the aforesaid universities?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 318 FOR 24.08.2011 ASKED BY SHRIDHARMENDRA YADAV, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR.

(a): The Government has allowed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100% under automatic route in the Education Sector. Also, a legislative proposal, namely, The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation for Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Parliament. The proposed law seeks to put in place a mechanism to regulate the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions.

(b): According to available information, a statement indicating the financial year wise FDI inflows from April 2006 to March 2009 is given in the annexure.

(c) to (f): In the absence of any central regulatory law at present, there is no authentic information with regard to foreign institutions operating in India and no data is centrally maintained. Looking at the quality and quantum of scientific research in India, an Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.M Sharma was constituted for rejuvenation of Basic Scientific Research in Universities. Based on the recommendations of the committee, action for strengthening science based education and research in universities has been initiated. The University Grants Commission (UGC) implements various schemes for improving quality of higher education such as Universities with Potential for Excellence, Colleges with Potential for Excellence, Special Assistance Programme, Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Science and Technology, Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Humanities and Social Sciences, Fellowship programmes for Research students.