

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:405

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011

TECHNICAL USAGE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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

- (a) whether the Government has merged/decided to merge the two schemes namely National Mission of Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) and National Knowledge Network (NKN);
- (b) if so, the details and the rationale thereof alongwith the name of the new scheme;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to connect universities, colleges and polytechnics as part of NMEICT to promote technology usage in higher education;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the number of institutions likely to be covered,category-wise;
- (e) whether the colleges which are to be connected have access to internet; and
- (f) if not, the time by which such colleges are likely to be provided with internet connections?

Answer

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) scheme, connectivity is provided by BSNL/MTNL. 377 out of envisaged 419 universities have already been provided with 1Gbps of connectivity through optical fibre as they have agreed to bear 25% of the cost (10% in case of universities located in NE States). Upto 10Mbps (15-20 nodes of 512 Kbps) connectivity is available for more than 25000 colleges and 2000 polytechnics in the country provided they agree to bear 25% of the cost.

(e) Access to internet is an integral part of the connectivity provided to the colleges which agree to get connected.

(f) Does not arise.