

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3390
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011
SURVEY ON EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the educationally backward districts in the country;
- (b) whether any survey on educationally backward districts in the country has been conducted by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any action plan has been drawn up for the educational development of these districts;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the level of education in these districts?

Answer

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

- (a) A list of the 374 identified educationally backward districts is at Annexure-I.
- (b)&(c) An Expert Committee constituted by University Grants Commission (UGC) under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.P. Thyagarajan, former Vice Chancellor, University of Madras had identified 374 such Educationally Backward Districts (EBDs) with GER less than national average. Details are available at UGC's website <http://www.ugc.ac.in/notices/newmodelcollegesEBD16nov09.pdf>.
- (d)&(e) Details of the orders issued by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of HRD can be seen on the Ministry's website <http://www.education.nic.in/uhe/modeldegreecolleges.pdf>.
- (f) The Central Government has been incentivising the State Governments to set up model degree colleges in the identified educationally backward districts. The capital cost is shared between centre and states on a 1: 2 ratio, while for Special Category States, in the North East, including Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir, the Centre-State capital cost to be shared on a 1:1 ratio. Existing colleges, set up after 1st January 2008 are eligible to receive central grants. According to the University Grants Commission, a total of 142 proposals have been received from the States, out of which 78 proposals have been approved. The state-wise details are given in Annexure-II.