

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5428
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the quality of education in schools and colleges has declined in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some good institutions such as Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in the country are not at par with the likes of MIT and Leeds in terms of quality of education;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the opportunities of getting higher education to poor students is very low; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to bring the quality of education in schools and colleges at par with international level?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Improvement of quality of education is a continuous process. While no specific studies are available for colleges, surveys conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) indicate that there have been improvements in the overall learning at school levels.

(c) & (d): While there is no universally recognized system of international ranking of higher educational institutions, some of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are comparable to some of the best international institutions.

(e) & (f): The Central Government is implementing a number of schemes to assist poor students in securing higher education. Merit-cum-means scholarship, including scholarships and fellowships to SCs, STs and minorities are being provided for pursuing higher education. Recently the Government has launched a new central scheme to provide full interest subsidy during the period of moratorium on educational loans for students belonging to economically weaker sections. The UGC as well as AICTE is also implementing various schemes for improving quality of higher education, such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE), Special Assistance Programme (SAP), Quality Improvement Programme (QIP) for faculty development and Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP). For encouraging research at M.Phil and Ph.D. level the number and amount of fellowships have been increased considerably. Many systemic reforms in University education have also been undertaken. At school level, for ensuring quality teachers, the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) has been introduced alongwith minimum qualifications. A series of workshops have been undertaken, alongwith curriculum reforms and Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation (CCE) of students.