GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:132 ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012 MODERNIZATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) the present status of the major initiatives to modernize the infrastructure for science and engineering in academic institutions, State-wise;
- (b) whether all the middle and high schools, vocational and other colleges have adequate sized science laboratories to strengthen infrastructure for science and technology in academic institutions, State-wise;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total expenditure under the scheme and the details of the beneficiaries in the country during the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): All India Council for Technical Education(AICTE) has a scheme aimed at Modernization and Removal of Obsolescence (MODROBS). The objective of this scheme is to modernize and remove obsolescence in the laboratories/workshops/computing facilities excluding libraries, so as to enhance the functional efficiency of technical institutions for teaching, training and research purposes. It also supports new innovations in Class Room and Laboratory / Teaching Technology, development of Lab Instructional Material and appropriate Technology to ensure that the practical work and project work to be carried out by students is contemporary and suited to the needs of the Industry. The equipment financed under the scheme up to a limit of Rs. 15 lakhs could be ideally used for upgradation of equipment in existing laboratories, enhancement of performance parameter, specification of existing equipment, incorporation of latest development in the field and replacement of old depreciated equipment by modern equipment. In addition to above major objectives, the equipment installed through MODROBS can be used for indirect benefit to Faculty / Students through Continuing Education programmes, Training programmes for local industry and consultancy work.

The details of the expenditure in MODROBS scheme during the last three years are as follows-

Rs. In lakh

2008-09 2009-10 2010-11

1434.19 5943.75 2531.17

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, a centrally sponsored scheme has been under implementation since 2009-10 with the vision to make secondary education of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all young persons in the age group 15-16 years. The scheme recognizes the importance of modernization of science related infrastructure in the schools by providing computer rooms and integrated science laboratory with necessary equipments for Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics to facilitate academic activities. Since functioning of the scheme from 2009-10, 23807 new Science Laboratory and 19641 Computer Rooms have been approved in the existing secondary schools out of which 1881 Science Laboratory and 1585 Computer Rooms have since been completed. In addition to above, the Computer Rooms and Science Laboratory have been sanctioned for all new 9636 secondary schools sanctioned during 2009-10 to 2011-12.