

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2880

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2012

ESTABLISHMENT OF MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with UNESCO for establishment of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the aims and objectives for setting up of such institute;
- (c) the details of the location identified for the institute;
- (d) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred and shared by India and UNESCO in the said project; and
- (e) the manner in which India is likely to be benefited by the said project and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The Agreements have been signed between the Government of India and the UNESCO for the establishment of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace & Sustainable Development (MGIEP), a UNESCO Category-I Institute at New Delhi.

(b) The aims and objectives of the Institute are:

- (i) to strengthen educational and knowledge base for promoting education for peace and sustainable development; and
- (ii) to contribute to the peace education and sustainable development-related research and capacity building needs of Member States with focus on Asia and the Pacific region.

The MGIEP Institute will contribute to the achievement of strategic programme objectives with regard to capacity-building and research in education for peace and sustainable development.

(c) The Institute is being initially located at the Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR) at 35, Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi-110001.

(d) An estimated expenditure of Rs.223.68 crores is likely to be incurred by India for over a period of 7 (seven) years for the MGIEP Institute. UNESCO's financial contribution will be limited to fund the post of the Director of the Institute.

(e) MGIEP will be the first UNESCO Category I Institute in Asia Pacific region and it will put India into the category of select countries with such Institutes. Further it will serve as a platform for India to emerge as a global leader from the Asia-Pacific region in the areas of education for Peace and Sustainable Development. These are important areas in global context whereby India could contribute strategically by way of formulation of programmes, training and research related activities using the opportunities offered by South-South and triangular North-South-South cooperation.

The Institute is proposed to start functioning from November, 2012.