

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1066

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009

IMPACT OF INCREASED FEES ON POOR STUDENTS

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to nudge educational institutions into revising tuition fees, levying user fees and withdrawing hostel subsidies;
- (b) If so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has rejected similar demand of the National Knowledge Commission earlier;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has assessed its impact on the poor students; and
- (f) if so, the remedial measures proposed by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

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

(a) (b) (e) & (f): In pursuance of Government's policy on rationalization of expenditure and optimization of available resources, economy instructions were issued to various autonomous organizations and statutory bodies like Central Universities, IITs etc., The instructions inter alia directed the organizations for mandatory cut of 5 to 10% under various heads of Non-Plan expenditure excluding salary and pension for the year 2009-10. At the same time, the Ministry was aware that for academic institution, it is often difficult within available resources to meet the cost of various chemicals and consumables etc. required in laboratories and also meeting the cost of library books and journals etc. Given the constraint of resources, leading to mandatory cut in non-salary expenditure, it was suggested that the institutions would make efforts to generate additional resources by gradual revision of tuition fees, levy of user fees, withdrawal of hostel subsidies and through other measures. To meet the needs of needy and meritorious students, Government has introduced schemes like interest subsidy on loans, award of scholarship etc.

(c) & (d): The recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission as well those made by the Committee to Rejuvenate and Renovate Higher Education are inputs to policy decision to reforming and strengthening Higher Education.