

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:477  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013  
MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE TALENTED STUDENTS  
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**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there are no adequate ways and means to encourage talented students including women from rural background and other deprived sections of the society;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note that due to lack of amenities, rural talents are not able to join the various streams of science and technology; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to encourage talented students of rural background to join the stream of science and technology including bio-technology?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR.SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b) In pursuance of the National Policy on Education, 1986, a Central Sector Scheme to set up a Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in each district of the country was launched in the year 1986-87. The scheme envisages to bring out the best of rural talent by providing opportunities to progress at a faster pace by making good quality education available to them irrespective of their capacity to pay for it so as to enable talented students from rural areas to compete with their urban counterparts on an equal footing. Till date 595 schools have been sanctioned in 576 districts of the country. As per norms, 75% of the admissions to the JNVs are primarily for the children from rural areas and efforts are made to ensure that atleast 1/3 of the students are girls. The reservation for SC/STs children is provided in proportion to their population in the concerned district and no less than the national average.

(c) & (d) All the JNVs in the country provide opportunity to the students to pursue science studies at the senior secondary level upon fulfilling the specified eligibility criteria. The students of JNVs have been excelling and getting admission for higher studies in top institutes of science and technology like the IITs, the NITs, Medical Colleges etc. due to the special care taken in imparting quality education