GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1563
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
INCREASE IN FEE IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to hike the fee of Central Universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the amount of fee likely to be increased;
- (c) whether the Government has made any evaluation of the impact of fee hike on the poor students who are studying in these universities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government to protect these poor students from the proposed hike in fee?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The Central Universities being autonomous institutions are competent to take decisions on academic and administrative matters, including the revision of their fee structures. All the Committees constituted by the UGC on this subject have recommended rationalization of fees. The Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) in its 9th Report has also recommended, inter alia, that fees in higher educational institutions need to be revised to meaningful levels so as to have a co-relation to the cost of education in such institutions. In order to protect the interests of poor students, it has also recommended that a portion of the additional realization from such increase in fee be used for extending freeships to students from poor families, besides granting scholarships to meritorious students. The 12th Plan as approved by the NDC also envisages raising of fees to a reasonable and sustainable level.