

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2129
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013
LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that infrastructure in most of the colleges in the country is crumbling and the laboratories for science courses are tiny and having very old equipments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to revamp the infrastructure in the colleges?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The Central Government is ensuring the adequate availability of infrastructure including laboratories and equipments in colleges maintained by it. The colleges set up by the State Governments are to be provided with adequate facilities by the State Governments. The Central Government is also funding colleges eligible under Section 12B of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 through UGC plan grants. Some of the State colleges may be facing shortage of infrastructure for science courses.

(c): The UGC has been providing development and maintenance assistance to eligible colleges for upgrading basic infrastructure and for the expansion and consolidation of facilities, the improvement of standards through modernization etc. During the 11th Five Year Plan, the Central Government launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of setting up Model Degree Colleges in Educationally Backward Districts (EBD) of the country. The CSS has since been subsumed under the new CSS of the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). The RUSA envisions identifying and filling up the critical infrastructural gaps in higher educational institutions by supporting the State Governments' efforts. These include establishing new Model Degree Colleges and upgrading some existing colleges to Model Degree Colleges, based on the State's perspective plans. Other components under the RUSA are infrastructure grants to colleges including grants for the creation of new Computer Centres and repairing and upgrading existing laboratories etc.