

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3411

ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014

RESEARCH AT UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

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

(a) whether the universities have failed to utilise the funds sanctioned for supplying computers to the colleges and develop the infrastructure of the science laboratories for conducting research at the undergraduate level;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission has sanctioned funds to various universities for the development of these laboratories for conducting research at the said level;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide basic infrastructure of the science laboratories to achieve goal of academic excellence?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The University Grants Commission (UGC) provides assistance to Universities eligible to receive UGC grants (as declared under section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956) only, for establishing/upgrading Computer Centres for (a) research & training (b) in application of computers in every field/subject (c) supporting the development of MCA /MSc (computer science) programmes and computer application papers at Postgraduate level in certain disciplines to keep pace with the developments in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The details of funds released by the UGC under its above mentioned scheme are as follows:

Financial year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)	Grants released by the UGC (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Beneficiary Universities
2007-08	100.00	76.67	19
2008-09	552.00	551.52	20
2009-10	1000.00	179.14	6
2010-11	500.00	399.20	16
2011-12	500.00	4.60	1
2012-13	500.00	519.40	15

The UGC also provides grants to universities and colleges under its scheme of Basic Scientific Research (BSR) to promote excellence in research through strengthening infrastructure in terms of power supply, water supply, safety equipments, working tables in labs and other infrastructure required for the component research at postgraduate level in Sciences, Bio-Sciences, Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Sciences.

(c) & (d): The details of grants released under the Scheme of BSR, state-wise, are at Annex.I.

(e): Apart from the BSR scheme, the UGC also provides grants under its schemes of Special Assistance Programme (SAP), Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE) etc. to improve infrastructure in Laboratories in Universities and Colleges eligible to receive UGC grants (as declared under section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956). Besides, it is also implementing a scheme to improve Basic Scientific Research in the country through targeted funding for improving infrastructure for such research.