GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4223 ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014 SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN UNIVERSITIES COLLEGES Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

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

- (a) whether the cases of sexual harassment in the university premises have been increasing over the years;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a): No, Madam. This Ministry is not in receipt of any report indicating a rise in cases of sexual harassment on university premises.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c): The University Grants Commission(UGC) has taken several preventive measures against sexual harassment and discrimination in universities/colleges. The UGC had asked all Vice Chancellors/Directors of all institutions of higher learning in the country to review the security arrangements for girls and women in university/college campuses and in girls' hostels. It has also constituted a task force to recommend measures to further ensure the safety of women and devise programmes for Gender Sensitization on campuses across the country. The Task Force has submitted its report. The UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions) Regulations, 2012 prohibit discrimination/harassment, on the basis of gender, in Higher Educational Institutions.