GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2929 ANSWERED ON:10.12.2014 ICT IN UNIVERSITIES COLLEGES Mahato Shri Bidyut Baran

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

(a) whether a large number of universities and colleges do not have information and communication technology facilities for teaching and training purposes in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance to such universities/colleges for the above purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, university/college-wise; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make provision of information and communication technology facilities in all universities/colleges throughout the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e) Madam, the Ministry does not centrally maintain the details of information and communi- cation technology facilities for teaching and training purposes in various Institutions/Colleges/ Universities.

Under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT), it is envisaged to provide 15-20 broadband connections of 512 Kbps speed each to over 25000+ colleges including 2000 polytechnics in the country and 1 Gbps optical fibre connectivity to 419 universities/ university level institutions. Under the Scheme, in the state of Jharkhand, connectivity to 9 universities/ institutions and 205 colleges have been provided. The other components of the NMEICT Mission include provision of e-books and e-journals free to the learners, support for generation of e-contents for Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate level, creation of web and video courses under NPTEL (National Programme in Technology Enhanced Learning) in all branches of engineering and physical sciences, development of virtual laboratory, development of vocational education modules etc.

Under the NMEICT scheme, no financial assistance has been provided by the Central Government directly to States to implement the scheme/ project. For connectivity to universities and colleges, central share of 75% of the cost is directly released to the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)/ Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) (implementing agency for connectivity) with the stipulation that the balance 25% of the cost would be deposited by the concerned institution directly to BSNL/ MTNL. The ratio in case of North Eastern Region (NER) is 90:10. However, as provided in the Mission document, funds have been released to universities/university level institutions of the country for various projects. Using computer infrastructure and connectivity, the reach of these facilities is ensured to the academic community.