GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:235 ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014 HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS Pal Shri Jagdambika

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

(a) whether a number of States do not have higher educational institutions of excellence including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has made any recommendations / comments regarding establishment of new Universities and higher educational institutions and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to improve the standard and quality of education in universities / colleges and ensure that each State has at least one higher educational institution of excellence?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARAS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.235 REGARDING "HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS" ASKED BY SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL TO BE REPLIED ON 23.07.2014

(a): No, Madam.

(b):A statement showing the Centrally Funded Technical Institutes (CFTIs) established in various States in the country is at Annexure-A.

(c)&(d): The focus of the 12th Five Year Plan is on consolidation and quality improvement rather than creating new institutions. New institutions are proposed to be set up only in those areas where critical social and regional gaps exist. The Government has decided to set up 5 new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in Jammu, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala and 6 new Indian Institutes of Management in states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Maharashtra.

While the government has been trying to improve quality of the existing institutions by maintaining budgetary support and other institutional measures, the new institutions are also being established with a view to fill regional gaps and enhance access to quality education.

With a view to improve quality in Universities and colleges, the Government has also launched the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), which envisages strategic funding of the higher education system in the States.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken up various measures for educational reforms aimed at improving quality of education in Indian Universities and colleges. Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff, Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions Regulations, 2012, Promotion and Maintenance of Standards of

Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions Regulations, 2012 are some of the regulations issued by the Government to improve the quality of education in Universities and colleges. Introduction of semester system, regular updating of curricula and choice based credit systems have also been put in place. The UGC also implements various schemes for improving quality of higher education, such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE), Special Assistance Programme (SAP), Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Science and Technology (ASIST), Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Humanities and Social Sciences (ASIHSS) and Basic Scientific Research

(BSR).

AICTE has various schemes for improvement of quality and standard of higher education in the country through which financial support is given to institutes. Alongside, the National Board of Accreditation, which is now a permanent member of the Washington Accord, helps in improving quality of technical education through mandatory registration of technical courses.