

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3645

ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015

HIGHER EDUCATION .

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that higher education in the country suffers from poor standard and lack of infrastructure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had introduced a central scheme to incentivize the States to improve higher education and if so, the details of the scheme and the success achieved so far in this regard;
- (d) the details of the present enrolment in the higher educational institutions;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to provide Central assistance to the States to create additional capacity in existing institutions and establish new institutions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Improvement of standards of higher education and upgradation of infrastructure is an on-going endeavour and the Central Government has been making a constant effort in this direction. Towards this end, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken various measures such as the introduction of a semester system, the regular updating of curricula and Choice Based Credit Systems (CBCS), etc. The UGC has also issued Regulations on "Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2010" for improving the standard of teaching in Indian Universities. UGC has also issued the "Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions, Regulations, 2012" whereby all eligible higher educational institutions are required to get themselves accredited. It has also issued the "Promotion and Maintenance of Standards of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions Regulations, 2012" to provide a framework for Indian higher educational institutions to enter into academic collaborations with quality foreign educational institutions.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) too has taken such measures as issuing the Regulations for Collaboration & Partnerships between Indian and Foreign Universities/ Institutions in the field of Technical Education, Research and Training. It has also notified Regulations making accreditation mandatory for all technical institutions.

UGC also implements various schemes aimed at improving the quality of higher education, such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE), Special Assistance Programme (SAP), Basic Scientific Research (BSR) etc.

(c): Yes, Madam. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiya (RUSA) has been launched to reform the higher education sector in the States and achieve the objectives of access, equity and excellence. RUSA supports components such as Creation of Universities by way of conversion of colleges in a Cluster and by upgrading existing Autonomous Colleges; Infrastructure Grants to Colleges & Universities; Creation of New Model Degree Colleges and new Professional Colleges; Upgradation of existing colleges to Model Degree Colleges; Research, Innovation and quality improvement; Faculty Recruitment Support; Faculty Improvement; Leadership Development of Educational Administrators; Institutional Restructuring and Reforms etc. The States prepare State Higher Education Plans (SHEPs), which include proposals under these components. The SHEPs are appraised and placed before the Project Approval Board for its consideration and approval.

Till date 28 States & 5 Union Territories are on board the scheme. As on date inter-alia infrastructure grants to 38 universities and 385 colleges; establishment of 56 new Model Degree Colleges; Upgradation of 25 existing Degree Colleges to Model Degree Colleges and 16 New Professional Colleges have been approved under RUSA. Further details of the scheme are available at [www.mhrd.gov.in/rusa](http://www.mhrd.gov.in/rusa).

(d): As per the provisional report 2012-13 of All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) the total enrolment in higher education has been estimated to be 29.6 million with 16.3 million boys and 13.3 million girls.

(e) & (f): Yes, Madam. Under RUSA the centre provides 90% of the funds to special category states (North Eastern Region States, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand & Himachal Pradesh) and 65% of the funds to other States & UTs.