

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4707
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015
PROMOTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Diwakar Shri Rajesh Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing a number of projects to promote higher education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the amount spent on the said projects in the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to link higher education and employment and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) namely the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) on 3rd October, 2013 for reforming the state higher education under various components such as infrastructure grants to universities, infrastructure grants to colleges, establishment of model degree colleges, upgradation of existing colleges to model degree colleges, creation of universities by upgrading autonomous colleges, establishment of new professional colleges etc. The Government has also launched the National Initiative for Design Innovation (NIDI) in the 12th Plan. The initiative envisages setting up of 20 new Design Innovation Centres (DIC), one Open Design School (ODS) and a National Design Innovation Network (NDIN) linking all these schools. In addition, the Government is implementing the Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMMNMTT) in order to comprehensively address all issues related to teachers, teaching, teacher preparation, professional development, curriculum design, designing and developing assessment & evaluation methodology, research in pedagogy and developing effective pedagogy.

(c): NIDI and PMMMMNMTT are not state specific projects, hence state-wise details are not maintained. The details of the funds released under RUSA are at Annexure.

(d): The Government has notified the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) on 27th December, 2013 a quality assurance framework which organizes qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills and aptitude. The NSQF enables a person to acquire desired competency levels, transit to the job market and at an opportune time, return for acquiring additional skills to further upgrade their competencies and ensure holistic development.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) provides grants, to universities and colleges under two schemes namely `Community Colleges` and `B.Voc degree programme` which offer employment oriented skill based vocational courses wherein an industry partner is essentially associated for curriculum development, delivery of courses and assessment of learners. To give further push to skill based vocations, the scheme of `Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya KAUSHAL Kendra` has also been approved by the UGC.

To encourage incorporation of skill oriented and value added, add-on-courses in colleges/universities, the UGC is implementing a Scheme entitled `Introduction of Career Oriented Courses` (COCs). Under the scheme, UGC provides financial assistance to universities and colleges, eligible to receive grants from the UGC, for introduction of COCs at the level of certificate/diploma/advance diploma which run concurrently with the conventional degrees such as B.A./B.Com /B.Sc.