

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION)**

HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

**[Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Twenty Fifth
Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Estimates]**

**COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES
(2015-16)**

TENTH REPORT

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

TENTH REPORT
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES
(2015-16)

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION)

[Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Twenty Fifth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Estimates]

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 21.12.2015)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
December, 2015 / Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)



E.C. No. _____

Price : ₹ _____

© 2015 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fourteenth Edition) and printed by the General Manager, Government of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi – 110002.

CONTENTS

PAGE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2015-16)

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I	Report
CHAPTER II	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government
CHAPTER III	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies
CHAPTER IV	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee
CHAPTER V	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited

ANNEXURES

APPENDICES

- (i) MINUTES of the Ninth Sitting of the Committee on Estimates held on 8.12.15
- (ii) Analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Twenty fifth Report of the Committee on Estimates (Fifteenth Lok Sabha).....

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES
(2015-16)

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi – Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Sultan Ahmed
3. Shri Kirti Azad
4. Shri Kalyan Banerjee
5. Shri Anil Shirole
6. Shri Om Birla
7. Shri Ashok Chavan
8. Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey
9. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary
10. Col. Sonaram Choudhary
11. Shri Ramen Deka
12. Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo
13. Shri Sanjay Dhotre
14. Shri P.C.Gaddigoudar
15. Shri Sudheer Gupta
16. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
17. Smt. Darshana Vikram Jardosh
18. Smt. Kavitha Kalvakuntla
19. Shri Vinod Khanna
20. Shri P. Kumar
21. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal
22. Shri K.H. Muniyappa
23. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey
24. Shri K N Ramachandran
25. Shri J.C. Divakar Reddy
26. Md. Salim
27. Shri Arvind Sawant
28. Shri Ganesh Singh
29. Shri Rajesh Verma
30. Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh - Additional Secretary

2. Shri Vipin Kumar - Director
3. Shri Srinivasulu Gunda - Additional Director
4. Ms. Savdha Kalia - Committee Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Estimates, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, do present this Tenth Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty Fifth Report of Estimates Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Higher Education in India' pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).

2. The Twenty Fifth Report of the Committee was presented to Lok Sabha on 06 September, 2013. Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) were received by 7 July 2015. The Draft Report was considered and adopted by the Committee on Estimates (2015-16) at their sitting held on the 8th December, 2015.

3. An analysis of action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty Fifth Report of the Committee on Estimates (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix II.

NEW DELHI;
17 December, 2015
26 Agrahayana, 1937 (saka)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI
Chairperson,
Committee on Estimates.

-

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty Fifth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Higher Education in India' pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).

1.2 The Twenty Fifth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 06.09.2013. It contained 21 observations/recommendations. Action Taken Notes on all these observations/recommendations were received from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) on 17.06.2015 and 07.07.2015.

1.3 Replies to the observations and recommendations contained in the Report have broadly been categorized as under:-

(i) Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government:

Sl. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 20 (Total 16)

(Chapter-II)

(ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply:

Sl. Nos. 1 and 21 (Total 02)

(Chapter-III)

(iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee:

Sl. Nos. 11, 13 and 17

(Total 03)

(Chapter IV)

(iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final reply of Government is still awaited:

Nil

1.4 The Committee desire that response to the comments contained in Chapter I of this Report should be furnished to them expeditiously.

1.5 The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of their recommendations.

A. Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of Women in Higher Education

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 3)

1.6 Having noted that the GER of women in higher education in India is only 16.50 per cent (2010-11) which is the lowest among BRICS countries and other economies – 2010, whereas the GER of China is way above at 27 per cent, Russian Federation 87 per cent and South Korea 86 per cent, the Committee observed from the MoHRD State-wise data that the GER of girls in higher education is highest in Goa at 30.9 per cent as per the data available for the latest year 2009-10 and the lowest in Odisha at 5.9 per cent. The Committee regretted to note that there are no special incentive schemes for promotion of higher education amongst women except Construction of Women Hostels in Colleges and Polytechnics and Establishment of Day Care Centres in Colleges. In this connection, the Committee feel that the hostel capacity in cities, which are major educational hubs, like

Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Mumbai, should be sufficient enough or to say 90% satisfaction level to accommodate all needy women students particularly those coming from the North-Eastern region of the country. The Committee, therefore, emphasized that concerted efforts be made with the co-operation of all State Governments to enhance women enrolment in higher education and construct Statewise women hostels in aforesaid cities.

1.7 The Department of Higher Education (DoHE), in their action taken reply has stated that It has always been a constant endeavour of the Department of Higher Education to frame different schemes and projects to ensure larger participation and enrolment of women. Therefore, reducing the gender gap in higher education is a focus area. There has been a phenomenal growth in enrolment of women students in higher education in the country. The share of girls' enrolment which was less than 10% of the total enrolment on the eve of independence, has increased to 44.89% in the beginning of the academic year 2012-13. The Committee were informed that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in 2011-12 and 2012-13 is as below:

**Table 19. GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO IN HIGHER EDUCATION (18-23 YEARS)
FOR THE YEAR 2011-12**

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	ALL CATEGORIES			SC			ST		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	11.0	13.8	12.3	-	-	-	4.6	10.0	7.2
2	Andhra Pradesh	33.3	26.4	29.9	28.2	22.9	25.6	29.5	19.2	24.2
3	Arunachal Pradesh	22.5	20.2	21.3	-	-	-	27.1	22.7	24.8
4	Assam	14.6	14.8	14.7	12.8	12.2	12.5	15.7	16.0	15.9
5	Bihar	14.0	10.8	12.5	9.4	6.1	7.8	15.9	14.0	15.0
6	Chandigarh	33.2	54.4	42.2	15.3	22.5	18.5	-	-	-
7	Chhatisgarh	11.0	10.1	10.5	8.8	7.3	8.1	4.9	4.5	4.7

8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.5	5.8	6.2	2.9	0.9	1.9
9	Daman & Diu	3.0	6.2	3.9	11.6	18.5	14.8	17.4	7.5	12.5
10	Delhi	38.9	39.0	38.9	19.7	17.0	18.5	-	-	-
11	Goa	21.5	25.9	23.5	21.0	24.5	22.7	11.8	13.6	12.7
12	Gujarat	18.1	14.7	16.5	18.3	15.1	16.8	9.5	8.7	9.1
13	Haryana	28.3	27.7	28.0	18.3	16.6	17.5	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	24.6	25.1	24.8	13.9	13.9	13.9	19.0	19.6	19.3
15	Jammu and Kashmir	21.8	24.0	22.8	8.9	12.1	10.5	8.0	5.8	6.9
16	Jharkhand	10.2	9.5	9.9	6.5	4.9	5.8	5.3	6.0	5.6
17	Karnataka	24.9	22.7	23.8	17.5	14.2	15.8	15.8	12.7	14.3
18	Kerala	17.8	25.6	21.8	12.0	21.8	16.9	12.9	15.0	14.0
19	Lakshadweep	6.2	17.5	11.5	-	-	-	1.5	4.9	3.2
20	Madhya Pradesh	22.0	14.6	18.5	13.7	10.9	12.4	8.4	5.8	7.1
21	Maharashtra	28.1	24.3	26.3	25.7	22.0	23.9	14.2	8.6	11.4
22	Manipur	30.4	29.9	30.2	55.0	54.6	54.8	20.5	18.2	19.4
23	Meghalaya	16.3	18.5	17.4	33.5	32.5	33.0	13.6	16.1	14.9
24	Mizoram	19.6	18.3	19.0	78.4	112.7	90.8	20.0	18.4	19.2
25	Nagaland	18.2	13.4	15.8	-	-	-	11.7	12.8	12.3
26	Odisha	18.3	15.0	16.6	10.0	8.4	9.2	7.2	6.0	6.6
27	Puducherry	40.4	36.3	38.3	31.3	26.6	28.8	-	-	-
28	Punjab	22.4	23.6	23.0	8.0	8.8	8.4	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	20.6	15.5	18.2	14.1	9.3	11.8	15.1	10.1	12.7
30	Sikkim	28.9	27.4	28.2	28.9	26.8	27.8	15.6	22.4	19.0
31	Tamil Nadu	43.2	36.8	40.0	30.3	26.7	28.5	36.1	29.1	32.5
32	Tripura	14.6	10.2	12.4	12.6	8.5	10.6	8.3	4.8	6.4
33	Uttar Pradesh	17.5	17.2	17.4	12.6	13.2	12.9	23.6	17.2	20.5
34	Uttarakhand	30.1	32.3	31.1	17.1	17.2	17.2	39.1	41.4	40.2
35	West Bengal	15.4	11.8	13.6	10.2	7.6	9.0	7.7	5.3	6.4
	All India	22.1	19.4	20.8	15.8	13.9	14.9	12.4	9.7	11.0

**Table 11. GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO IN HIGHER EDUCATION (18-23 YEARS)
FOR THE YEAR 2012-13**

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	ALL CATEGORIES			SC			ST		
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14.4	17.5	15.9	-	-	-	6.0	12.6	9.2
2	Andhra Pradesh	32.7	25.4	29.1	27.7	22.0	24.9	28.9	18.5	23.6
3	Arunachal Pradesh	20.3	18.2	19.3	-	-	-	24.4	20.6	22.4
4	Assam	12.8	12.8	12.8	11.3	10.5	10.9	13.8	13.8	13.8
5	Bihar	12.4	9.9	11.2	8.3	5.5	6.9	14.1	12.8	13.4
6	Chandigarh	48.5	55.2	51.3	22.3	22.8	22.5	-	-	-
7	Chhatisgarh	12.4	11.2	11.8	9.9	8.1	9.0	5.6	5.0	5.3
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.7	7.4	6.3	5.8	6.9	6.3	2.6	1.1	1.8
9	Daman & Diu	3.3	6.9	4.3	13.1	20.5	16.5	19.5	8.3	14.0
10	Delhi	37.9	39.2	38.5	19.3	17.1	18.2	-	-	-
11	Goa	21.2	25.6	23.2	20.8	24.1	22.4	11.6	13.4	12.5
12	Gujarat	19.5	15.5	17.6	19.8	15.9	18.0	10.2	9.2	9.7
13	Haryana	29.1	28.1	28.7	18.8	16.8	17.9	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	23.5	24.0	23.8	13.3	13.3	13.3	18.2	18.8	18.5
15	Jammu and Kashmir	23.7	24.5	24.1	9.7	12.4	11.0	8.7	5.9	7.3
16	Jharkhand	10.3	9.8	10.1	6.6	5.1	5.9	5.3	6.2	5.7
17	Karnataka	26.3	24.6	25.5	18.4	15.4	16.9	16.7	13.8	15.3
18	Kerala	18.9	26.9	22.9	12.7	22.9	17.8	13.7	15.8	14.8
19	Lakshadweep	6.3	17.7	11.8	-	-	-	1.6	4.9	3.2
20	Madhya Pradesh	23.3	15.2	19.5	14.6	11.3	13.1	8.9	6.0	7.5
21	Maharashtra	27.2	23.8	25.6	24.8	21.6	23.3	13.7	8.4	11.1
22	Manipur	30.5	30.2	30.3	55.2	55.2	55.2	20.6	18.4	19.5
23	Meghalaya	17.0	17.5	17.3	35.1	30.8	33.0	14.2	15.2	14.7
24	Mizoram	21.5	21.0	21.3	86.4	128.6	101.7	21.9	21.1	21.5
25	Nagaland	16.2	11.5	13.9	-	-	-	10.4	11.0	10.7

27	Puducherry	45.3	39.1	42.1	35.1	28.7	31.8	-	-	-
28	Punjab	21.8	23.8	22.7	7.8	8.9	8.3	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	20.1	16.2	18.2	13.7	9.7	11.8	14.7	10.5	12.7
30	Sikkim	21.4	25.9	23.6	21.4	25.2	23.3	11.5	21.2	16.4
31	Tamil Nadu	45.4	38.7	42.0	31.8	28.1	29.9	37.9	30.6	34.2
32	Tripura	16.4	11.6	14.0	14.2	9.7	11.9	9.3	5.4	7.2
33	Uttar Pradesh	18.1	18.2	18.1	13.0	13.9	13.4	24.4	18.1	21.3
34	Uttarakhand	32.3	34.0	33.1	18.4	18.1	18.3	42.0	43.6	42.8
35	West Bengal	16.8	13.2	15.0	11.2	8.5	9.9	8.3	5.9	7.1
All India		22.3	19.8	21.1	16.0	14.2	15.1	12.4	9.7	11.0

AISHE Report 2012-13

It may be seen from the Table No. 19 –GER in the Higher Education (18-23 years) for the year 2011-12 for all categories female GER 19.4 against a total of 20.08 and SC/ST GER is 13.9 & 9.7 respectively. In the year 2012-13, GER has increased for female categories 19.8 against 19.4 of 2011-12. There is also improvement in SC categories as it has reached to 14.2 from 13.9. In the case of ST the figures are same for the years at 9.7.

The DoHE in the action taken replies stated that there had been a phenomenal growth in the number of women students enrolled in higher education, since independence. The women enrolment which was less than 10 per cent of the total enrolment on the eve of Independence had risen to 43.28 per cent in the academic year 2012-2013. The pace of growth has been particularly faster in the last two decades. As the data in Table show that the number of women enrolled per hundred men registered more than five times in 2012-2013 as compared to 1950-1951.

Women Students Per Hundred Men Students

Year	Total Enrolment (000s)	Women Enrolment	Women
------	------------------------	-----------------	-------

1950-51	40	14
2012-13	9306	76.31

From the following Table also, one can find as many as 2058 women colleges have so far been established during the XI Plan as compared to the figure at the end of X Plan (2208), thus resulting in 93% increase in the number of women colleges established. As on 31.03.2013, there had been 4386 colleges exclusively for women.

Number of Women Colleges during the period 1997-1998 – 2012-2013

Year	Number of Women Colleges
1997-1998	1260
1998-1999	1359
1999-2000	1503
2000-2001	1578
2001-2002	1756
2002-2003	1824
2003-2004	1871
2004-2005	1977
2005-2006	2071
2006-2007	2208
2007-2008	2360
2008-2009	2565
2009-2010	3612
2010-2011	3982
2011-2012	4266
2012-2013	4386*

* Provisional and includes Nursing Colleges for Women

The Committee in regard to construction of Women's Hostels were informed that the UGC has been providing hostels and other infrastructural facilities to achieve the goal of enhancing the status of women and harness the potential availability for the development of the society, as also to bring about gender equity and equal representation of women through a special scheme 'construction of women's hotels'. The main objective is to support all the eligible colleges for construction of hostels for women in order to provide a residential place for women students/researchers/teachers and other staff. The

Colleges which come within the purview of the UGC and are fit to receive central assistance under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act, are eligible to receive financial assistance. During the XI Plan period the U.G.C. approved/sanctioned a total of 285 Women Hostels in Minority Concentrated Districts (MCDs). During 2012-13, 25 Women Hostels and 68 Women Hostels have been approved in MCDs by September, 2013 during current year. This assistance will be on cent percent basis subject to the ceilings given below:-

(Amount in lakhs)

Women Enrolment	Amount in respect of Non-Metropolitan cities	Amount in respect of Metropolitan cities
(a) Upto 250	40	80.00
(b) 251-500	60	100.00
(c) More than 500	80	120.00

UGC has been providing financial assistance for the construction of women hostels under the Scheme “Women Hostels” to all eligible universities and colleges to achieve the goal of enhancing the enrolment of women. Further, to increase women enrolment in higher education, UGC has been providing financial assistance to women under the dedicated Fellowships/Scholarships Schemes such as Post-doctoral Fellowship for Women, Indira Gandhi Post-graduate Scholarships for Single Girl Child and Single Girl Child Fellowship Scheme. In addition, UGC provides funds for the development of women studies in Indian universities and colleges under the Scheme “Women Study Centres”. The Scheme emphasized mentoring, partnership and clustering as well as orientation and training workshops.

1.8 The Committee note with some satisfaction that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of women increased from 16.50% (2010-11) to 19.8% (2012-13). However, the Committee note that the current GER of about 20% for women falls way below the GER of women in nations like China and Russia. Notably, the GER for women in SC

category has risen only marginally and for ST category has remained stagnant from 2011-12 to 2012-13. While the efforts of the Government in increasing infrastructural facilities both in respect of number of women colleges and women hostels are noteworthy, the Committee are of the considered view that the special incentive schemes for promotion of Higher Education amongst women have to go beyond mere increase in infrastructural facilities. The Committee reiterate the need to introduce substantial incentive schemes in form of increased financial assistance at graduation and post-graduation level, financial assistance not merely for single girl child but also to girls hailing from economically weaker sections. The imperative need is to have more committed efforts to ensure a rapid increase in GER for women in Higher Education including the women of SC and ST category.

B. Setting up of Model Degree Colleges

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 4, 5 & 6)

1.9 The Committee, having observed that central assistance scheme launched in the year 2010 for establishment of a Model Degree College each in 374 low GER districts in higher education was yet to be implemented fully because of fund constraints of State Governments, were informed that the proposal to convert the Central Assistance Scheme into a Centrally Sponsored Scheme was being considered. The Committee thus recommended that an expeditious decision be taken in the matter and the scheme implemented in right earnest in a time bound manner under intimation to the Committee. The Committee also desired that all stake holders in the scheme be actively involved to ensure their participation to avoid any corrupt practices in the implementation of the scheme. The Committee were also informed by the Department of Higher Education that the review of new schemes launched in the Eleventh Plan was being carried out. The Committee noted that State Universities and colleges which constitute the bulk of Higher Education Institutions are poorly funded and suffer from acute quality deficit. It was

informed that in order to incentivise States to step up investment in higher education, the Central Government is reportedly finalizing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to fund and support institutions in the State higher education system. The Committee recommended that the scheme be finalised soon and the Committee apprised of the features of the same.

1.10 The Department of Higher Education (DoHE), in its Action Taken Replies stated that the old scheme for establishment of model degree colleges in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts in the country launched in 11th Plan, has been subsumed in new Centrally Sponsored Scheme Rashtriya Uchchar Siksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for 12th and 13th Plan period.

The Cabinet, on 3.10.2013, gave its approval for the implementation of the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). RUSA will focus on strengthening State Universities through various components such as creation of colleges/universities, upgrading existing institutions, infrastructure grants for higher educational institutions, etc. The funding to states would be made on the basis of critical appraisal of State Higher Education Plans. These plans would address each State's strategy to address issues of equity, access and excellence in higher education.

The DoHE further informed that RUSA is intended to continue through two plan periods i.e the 12th and 13th Plan. RUSA has a total outlay of Rs 22,855 crores in the 12th Plan period, out of which the Central Share comes out to be Rs 16,227 (the amount excludes allocation of Rs. 1800 crores for the existing sub-mission of "Support for the polytechnics in the States"). Centre - State funding is in the ratio of 90:10 for North-Eastern States, J&K, Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand and 65:35 for other States and Union Territories. Support would be extended to only government and government aided institutions. The Project Approval Board (PAB) and the National Mission Authority of RUSA were formed through a Resolution in the Extra-ordinary Gazette of India.

The Action Taken Replies stated that RUSA provides funding for establishment of Universities through upgradation of Autonomous Colleges, creation of Universities by

conversion of colleges into cluster, Creation of New Professional Colleges, New Model Degree Colleges, Upgradation of existing colleges to Model Degree Colleges, etc.,

As on 17th March, 2015, 29 States and 5 Union Territories (UTs) are on board. 24 States have submitted their State Higher Education Plans (SHEPs). Out of them 16 SHEPs have been approved by the Project Approval Board. As on 17th March, 2015, an amount of Rs.418 crore (excluding sub-mission on Polytechnics) has been released for various components under RUSA scheme.

It has further been stated that RUSA is envisaged as the prime vehicle for strategic funding of State Institutions to ensure that issues of access, equity and quality are addressed in an equitable manner. The scheme aims to increase the Gross enrolment ratio (GER) for higher education to 30% by 2020 through initiatives like creation of colleges and universities, establishing model degree colleges, providing support for infrastructural upgradation and research and innovation. The Centre: State ratio for grants is 90:10 for Special Category States (NER, J&K, HP and Uttarakhand) and 65:35 for other States/UTs. As on 31st March, 2015, 28 States and 5 UTs had indicated their willingness to participate in RUSA and an amount of Rs. 436.37/- crore had been released under various components of RUSA.

1.11 The Committee note that the old scheme for establishment of model degree colleges in 374 educationally backward districts in the country launched in 11th Plan has been subsumed in Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for 12th Plan period, which with a total outlay of Rs. 22855 crores provides for funding of New Model Degree Colleges as well as upgradation of existing colleges to Model Degree Colleges. The Committee further note that as on 31 March, 2015, 28 States, 8 UTs were on board to participate in RUSA. The Committee desire that their concerns in respect of establishing of Model Degree Colleges and providing of appropriate funds to States to step up investment in Higher Education should be suitably addressed in the new scheme and the Committee be informed of the same.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate that the matter warrants rigorous pursuance with all the stakeholders to infuse a sense of urgency in all the States and UTs so that all come under the ambit of RUSA to achieve the target of establishing of model degree colleges in 374 educationally backward districts expeditiously.

C. Need to promote Enrolment in Agriculture & Allied Fields

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 9)

1.12 The Committee observed that the growth in enrolment in Arts, Sciences and Laws in Higher Education was less than the growth in Engineering, Education and Medicine during the period from 2006-07 to 2011-12. The Growth of enrolment in Arts, Sciences, Management ranged between 43 and 95 per cent, whereas the growth in Engineering, Education, and Medicine ranged between 134 and 332 per cent during the period. Humanities and Social Sciences are critical to higher education. In order to promote study of Humanities and Social Sciences and to improve their quality of teaching and research, the MoHRD had proposed a total outlay of about Rs. 211 crore under the National initiative for Excellence in Humanities and Social Sciences during 2013-14. The Committee, therefore, desired to be apprised of the results of this initiative. The Committee further observed that enrolment of students in agriculture was just 0.48 per cent and in veterinary sciences 0.14 per cent during 2011-12. The Committee opined that our economy being predominantly agrarian, there was a need to promote interest of students in agriculture and allied fields, if necessary by providing sufficient incentives.

1.13 The Department of Higher Education, in their Action Taken Replies stated that the Growth rate is varied in different States in the country and some States have shown better results during the past few years, whereas some States have shown improvement in GER in respect of subject wise enrolment. The number of colleges and universities have also increased tremendously with the resultant in increase in overall enrolment.

There has also been growth in different programmes in Technical Education. During 2013-14 alone, out of the total enrolment of students (237.65 lakh), 36.57% students had been in the Faculty of Arts followed by 17.23% in Science and 7.60% in Commerce/ Management. Thus, 71% of the total enrolment had been in these faculties Arts, Science and Commerce/Management while remaining 29% had been in the professional faculties recording the highest percentage in Engineering/ Technology (15.55%) which includes Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology and Architecture, etc. followed by Education (5.42%) and Medical Courses (4.18%) etc. in students enrolment 2005-07.

1.14 The Committee, while taking note of the increase registered in total enrolment in faculties of Arts as a result of the National Initiative for Excellence in Humanities and Social Science, would like to be apprised of the enrolment of students in faculties related to agriculture in particular and not merely as a part of total enrolment in Engineering/Technology related faculties. While reiterating the earlier recommendation to promote interest of students in agriculture and allied fields by introducing sufficient incentives, the Committee impress upon the Ministry that initiatives should be taken by introducing courses and scholarships with a view to increasing employability in agriculture and related sectors.

D. Mechanism to Check Unapproved Institutions

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 11)

1.15 The Committee had observed that the total growth rate of institutions in terms of

percentage had shown a positive trend during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, however, strict vigilance was required over 312 unapproved private institutions which fleece gullible students. In absence of mechanism to deal with such institutions, the Committee opined that this aspect should be looked into, if necessary, with the involvement of State Governments to ensure that the interests of students admitted in such institutions was not adversely affected and also a system of disposal of complaints within a timeframe regarding unapproved institutions and provision of imposition of heavy penalty on the management of unapproved institutions be considered.

1.16 The Department of Higher Education in their Action Taken Replies stated that UGC has identified 21 fake universities across the country and has been publicizing the list time and again in public interest through electronic and print media. To maintain standards in state private universities, UGC has brought out the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 and all private universities in the country are governed by the provisions contained in these regulations. Of late, UGC has amended these regulations which has been sent to the Government of India for concurrence.

These Private Universities are also inspected by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees constituted by the UGC which includes representatives from the concerned Statutory Council(s). These Expert Committees visit the Private Universities to assess the fulfillment of minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down by the UGC and other concerned Statutory Bodies. The reports of the Expert Committees are placed before the Commission for consideration and the Private Universities were asked to submit compliance report in respect of the observations/suggestions of the Expert Committees. The compliance reports were examined by the UGC and again placed before the Commission for consideration.

Out of the 185 State Private Universities, the UGC Expert Committees have already visited 100 Private Universities. The reports of UGC visiting committees have

been uploaded on the UGC website for the information of student/parents and general public at large.

It further informed that AICTE maintains a list of unapproved institutions which is displayed on the AICTE website for information and benefit of the stake holders. There has been a well laid down procedure to deal with the complaints and other issues related to unapproved institutions within the provision of AICTE Act. When any complaint or information regarding any unapproved institutions is received from any source then letters are issued to the institutions to close down the unapproved programmes and to apply for seeking the AICTE approval. Copy of the letters are also marked to respective State Governments for taking necessary action against such institutions and monitoring the provisions of ACITE Act requiring prior approval of AICTE to start technical programme. If any clarification is received in response to AICTE letter then the same is placed before the duly constituted Hearing Committee and an opportunity is given to the institutions to present their case. After hearing, if the Committee is satisfied with the clarification furnished based on committee recommendations, affidavit in prescribed format is sought and names are removed from the list of unapproved institutions. However, it may be noted that AICTE Act does not provide any judicial framework to take any punitive or legal action against such institutions.

1.17 The Committee are dismayed to note that the Expert Committees of UGC have not yet visited 85 of the total 185 State Private Universities. Further the UGC and AICTE do not go beyond uploading the list of unapproved institutions on its website and have, surprisingly, no judicial framework to take any punitive or legal action against such institutions. Also the reply provided by the Government is silent on its plan of establishing any timeframe for disposal of complaints regarding unapproved institutions or imposing deterrent penalty on the management of such upapproved institutions as was recommended by the Committee. The reply is further lacking on steps taken to safeguard the interest of the gullible students at hands of such fake institutions as suggested by the

Committee. The Committee deprecate such indifferent attitude of the Government and reiterate their earlier recommendation.

E. Under Utilization of Funds by Central Universities

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 12)

1.18 While observing that there are 40 Central universities which are fully funded by the MoHRD through University Grants Commission, the Committee noted that the utilization of funds allocated by UGC to these universities was just 73 per cent in 2010-11 which improved to 97 per cent in 2011-12. Utilization remained as low as 30 per cent for first three quarters of 2012-13. The Committee highlighted the case of University of Delhi where only 35 per cent of total allocation was utilized in 2010-11, 78 per cent in 2011-12 and 11 per cent upto December, 2012 in 2012-13. Surprised by such gross under utilization of funds, the Committee urged that as decided in the Council of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities, academic audit and review by External Peer Review Board (EPRB) should be held expeditiously and the Committee be informed of the outcome.

1.19 In the Action Taken Replies, the Department of Higher Education stated that the UGC requested all the Central Universities to expedite the utilization of expenditure. However, any further release of Plan grant to Central Universities is being released only after receiving Utilization of expenditure upto 70% of the earlier releases. Maintenance grant is being released to Central Universities only after submission of Utilisation Certificates on provisional basis in respect of grants of the preceding financial year. Release of grants-in-aid in excess of 75% of the total amount sanctioned for the subsequent financial year shall be done only after the Utilization Certificate and the Annual Audited Statement relating to grants-in-aid released in the preceding year are submitted to the satisfaction of UGC.

With regard to review of fiscal performance, the accounts of Central Universities are mandatorily subjected to audit by the Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG) of India every year and the Annual Accounts duly audited are required to be tabled in both Houses of the Parliament. Further, the University Grants Commission (UGC) reviews the financial performance of each Central University on a periodical basis for ensuring proper utilization of funds and for providing further financial assistance to the Universities. Release of Plan and Non-Plan grant is linked to submission of Annual Accounts and Annual Reports in the Parliament for the preceding year. UGC will convene a mid-term review on the academic and physical performance of the Central Universities. However, as an immediate measure, UGC also convened a meeting with the Registrar and Finance Officer of Central Universities on 7th-8th January, 2015 to discuss the Action Plan of the University for utilization of funds during XII Plan and filling up of vacant teaching positions.

Further, it was informed that as per decision taken in the Council of VCs of Central Universities held on 25th October, 2012 at New Delhi, it was pointed out that the Central Universities Acts have a provision for a review of the University by the Visitor from time to time. It was agreed that the External Peer Review Board should comprise of minimum 5 members instead of the fixed number 5. The Executive Council should provide a panel of names for the review and the Council could further add to or modify the panel before submission to the Visitor for his approval. The review has to be based on pre-determined and quantifiable parameters to be evolved through Committees of Experts. It was also resolved in the meeting that there should be clear set of guidelines to be issued by the ministry.

1.20 The Committee note that the Ministry releases grant to Central Universities only on receiving a utilization of expenditure certificate upto 70% of its earlier releases. The maintenance grant is being released to these Central Universities on receipt of utilization certificate on provisional basis in respect of grants of the preceding financial year and the remainder 25% on receipt of the audited statement of accounts relating to grant in aid released in the preceding year. Further UGC

convened a meeting of Registrars and Finance officers of Central Universities on 07-08 January, 2015 to discuss Action Plan of Universities for utilization of funds. However, the Committee have not been apprised of action taken in respect of expediting the academic audit and review by External Peer Review Board (EPRB) as also on the low utilization of funds during the first three quarters of each year by the Central Universities. The Committee desire that action be taken in this direction also and the Committee be informed of the same.

F. Slackness in Granting of Scholarships

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 13)

1.21 The Committee in their original Report were disappointed to note that the fund utilization for scholarships during the last 3 years had been poor particularly under the non-Plan budget. It is observed that during the year 2010-11 the utilization was only 13 per cent, whereas during 2011-12 and 2012-13, the percentage of utilization was 31 per cent and 14 per cent (upto December, 2012) respectively. The slots for External Scholarships provided by different countries had not been fully utilized. The Committee noted pendencies in completion of selection process for schemes like Post Doctoral Fellowship for SC/ST Candidates and Radhakrishnan Post Doctoral Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences. The Committee, therefore, desired that reasons for slackness in granting scholarships must be identified and remedial action taken. The Committee also observed the present level of scholarships offered to female students was inadequate and needed to be augmented. Therefore, they recommended that the Government should consider reserving adequate percentage of all scholarships and fellowships offered in higher education for women.

1.22 The Department of Higher Education in their Action taken Replies gave details of all scholarship schemes provided for Higher Education as under:

1) PG Scholarship for professional Courses for SC/ST candidates:

The reasons for under utilization of the funds for the scholarship are as under:

a) During i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13 less no. of applications were being received under the scheme in respect of the degrees i.e. M.E., M.Tech., M.Pharma., M.B.A. Some of the applicants under the above said streams were not selected due to non fulfilment of the criteria laid down in the UGC guidelines.

b) The selection for award of scholarship for 2013-14 under the scheme of PG Scholarship for professional Courses for SC/ST candidates has already been executed and the result has been uploaded on the UGC website. The beneficiaries are being paid scholarship through DBT by Canara Bank.

2) Under the PG Indira Gandhi scholarship for Single Girl Child scheme, the cap is open. So the selection of the candidates is made against the number of applications complete in all respect received in a respective year.

3) PG Merit scholarship for University Rank Holders. The reasons for under utilization of the scholarship are as under:

a) PG Scholarship under this scheme is awarded to only 1st and 2nd rank holders who are pursuing non-professional PG courses in Indian Universities/Colleges/Institutes. The rank of the applicant is considered out of the no. of students appearing in the examination i.e.100 in state and central universities each and 25 in Deemed universities and the colleges affiliated to them. However the no. of applications received each year against the number of slots are very less in number. Some students are also not selected although scoring 1st or 2nd Rank due to the reason that no. of candidates appeared for examination are lesser than the numbers fixed for universities.

Some of the students are unable to apply in the respective year as they are not being provided university rank certificate timely by the respective universities. The selection of award of fellowship during last 3yrs i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13 under the scheme of

Post Doctoral Fellowship for SC/ST candidates has already been processed and the exercise completed. The awarded candidates are availing benefit under the said scheme through DBT by Canara Bank. The execution of the award of fellowship for the year 2013-14 under the above said scheme is under process and the selection will be completed very shortly.

(4) Radha Krishnan Post Doctoral fellowship for Humanities and Social sciences. This scheme was introduced in IX plan but could not be implemented due to procedural delays. The guidelines of the scheme have now been modified and approved by the Commission in its 501st meeting held on 13th June,2014. To implement it during 2014-15, the process of inviting applications online is underway.

(5) National Scholarship Central Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students provides financial assistance to meritorious students from poor families to meet a part of their day to-day expenses while pursuing higher studies. The scholarships is awarded on the basis of the results of senior secondary examination. 82000 fresh scholarships per annum (41000 for boys and 41 000 for girls) are provided. Students who are above 80th percentile of successful candidates in the relevant stream for a particular Board of Examination, in class XII of 10+2 pattern or equivalent and having family income of less than Rs.6.lakhs per annum, pursuing regular courses (not correspondence or distance mode) from recognised educational institutions and not availing of any other scholarship scheme, would be eligible for consideration under this Scheme. The rate of scholarship are to be Rs.1000/- at Graduation level for the first three years of College and University courses and Rs. 2000/- per month at Post-Graduation level. . Students pursuing professional courses would get Rs.2000/- per month in the 4th and 5th year. The scholarships would be paid for 10 months in an academic year. This is subject to annual renewal on the basis of stringent criteria. Under the Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students, 50% of the total scholarship of 82000 are already earmarked to girl students which is 41000.

The reasons for low utilization of the scholarship are as follows: (i) Low amount of scholarship. (ii) Only day to day expenses are covered and the beneficiaries of this Scheme are debarred from availing the benefits of the other scholarship schemes. (iii) Other lucrative scholarship schemes are already available for SC,ST, OBC, Minorities etc., which cover meeting of major expenses of their course fee and living expenses.

The NIT also introduced a merit scheme in 2009-10 for the students in top 2000 ranks in JEE with usual reservation for SC/ST/OBC candidates. The scheme is funded from the funds generated by CBSE from conduct of JEE. Under the Scheme, tuition fee (presently 70000/-) is being paid as scholarship.

(6) EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIP External Scholarship Division administers scholarship offered by donor Countries at Masters & Phd. level. At present the countries offering Scholarships are - China, Korea, Japan, Israel, Italy, Sri Lanka, Commonwealth UK and Commonwealth New Zealand.

External Scholarship Division facilitates nomination of Indian students for scholarship offered by donor countries through a transparent selection procedure as per the slots provided by the donor countries.

The donor countries select the candidates from the nominated lists of students as per the norms. The External scholarship division has no role in the final selection of the candidate. Besides, at times the students who have been finally selected do not avail external scholarship due to personal reasons.

1.23 The Committee note with concern that the action taken reply provided by the Government merely elaborates on the various scholarship schemes whereas the thrust of the recommendation was regarding dismally low utilization of funds provided for scholarships during the last 3 years and the need to augment steps to increase the utilization as also initiating more scholarships for female students. The Committee also find that the number of applications received each year against number of slots for scholarship are relatively low. However, given the abundance of students in the country with low GER in Higher Education, the

schemes for scholarship need to be well advertised so as to cover small, rural and remote areas having deserving and needy students. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation for identifying slackness in granting scholarship alongwith taking remedial actions to remove the same and also introduce adequate scholarship and fellowship for women. The Committee await further action by the Ministry in this regard.

G. Shortage of Adequate and Qualified Faculty

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 15)

1.24 Having observed that availability of adequate and qualified faculty is of utmost necessity to provide quality education, Committee were concerned to note that as many as around 40 per cent of the sanctioned posts are reportedly lying vacant in State Universities and 35 per cent in Central Universities. The Committee were disappointed to learn that most of 66 Academic Staff Colleges (ASCs) established for faculty development had not delivered results. The Committee, therefore, desired to be apprised of the reasons for failure of ASCs and remedial action taken/ proposed. The Committee recommended that 'National Mission on Teachers & Training' aimed to address all issues related to faculty shortage be expeditiously finalized and implemented with specific targets under intimation to the Committee.

1.25 The Department of Higher Education while providing the details of the Mission relaunched on 24.12.2014 for the purpose, stated in its replies that with the fast pace of expansion of the education system in the country, both at school and higher education stages, improving quality has come to occupy centre stage in educational development. Needless to say that teachers hold the key for success of any effort in this direction. Attention, therefore, has to be focussed on the preparation of teachers and their working

conditions in classrooms, schools and colleges, as also their continuous professional development, ensuring that best talent in the country are made available to shape the future generations.

Hence, with above background, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has launched the Scheme of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers & Teaching on 25th December, 2014 with an outlay of Rs. 900 crores.

The Mission will address comprehensively 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. This will be one of the major thrust areas of action of the Government. The Mission would address, on the one hand, current and urgent issues such as supply of qualified teachers, attracting talent into teaching profession and raising the quality of teaching in schools and colleges. On the other, it is also envisaged that the Mission would pursue long term goals of building a strong professional cadre of teachers by setting performance standards and creating top class institutional facilities for innovative teaching and professional development of teachers.

The Mission will focus on these goals in a holistic manner dealing with the whole sector of education without fragmenting the programmes based on levels and sectors as school, higher, technical etc. This is an umbrella scheme which will create synergies among the various ongoing initiatives on Teachers and Teaching under Ministry of HRD and other autonomous institutions.

The Scheme is a central sector Scheme having All –India coverage. It will provide an integrated platform for building synergies among all the existing initiatives that are launched or under finalisation by the Department of School Education and Literacy, University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), National Mission on Education through

ICT (NMEICT), Central Universities (CUs), National Institutes of Technical Teachers' Training and Research (NITTTRs) etc. providing oversight to the existing activities and also carry out new activities aimed at gap filling so that a comprehensive vehicle for Teacher/Faculty related programmes and schemes is created. Thus, the PMMMMNMTT will have role in policy, regulation and oversight of all existing and new schemes for teachers and teaching in both school and higher education sectors.

While elaborating on the components of the Mission the replies stated the following:-

- (i) Schools of Education (in Central Universities) - 30
- (ii) Centres of Excellence for Curriculum and Pedagogy -50
- (iii) Inter-University Centres for Teachers' Education - 2
- (iv) National Resource Centre for Education - 1
- (v) Centres for Academic Leadership and Education Management - 5
- (vi) Innovations, Awards, Teaching Resource Grant, including Workshop & Seminar
- (vii) Subject Networks for Curricular Renewal and Reforms

It also informed that during the year 2014-15, an amount of ₹1 crore has been released to Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore for establishing a Centre of Excellence for Science and Mathematics Education. During the financial year 2015-16, an outlay of ₹100 crore has been provided for the Scheme.

1.26 The Committee observe from the action taken reply that the 'National Mission on Teachers and Training', aimed to address all issues related to faculty shortage, has been launched with an outlay of ₹ 900 crore in the year 2014. The Committee are also given to understand that the Mission would pursue long term goals of building a strong professional code of teachers. However, the Government's reply is silent as to what reasons led to disappointing results of 66 Academic Staff Colleges established earlier for the same purpose and also if the reasons for its failure have been addressed to while formulating the new Mission. The Committee seek an explanation in this regard and reiterate that necessary steps be taken to fill up vacant posts of various faculties in State Universities as well as Central Universities at the earliest.

H. Setting up of New IITs and IIMs

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 17)

1.27 The Committee were informed that six new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) at Hyderabad, Patna, Jodhpur, Bhubaneswar, Ropar and Gandhinagar started functioning from the year 2008-09 and two new IITs at Indore and Mandi started functioning from 2009-10. The Committee noted with regret that even after five years, none of the IITs have started functioning from their permanent campuses. Permanent campus for IITs in Hyderabad, Mandi and Patna had commenced construction in November, 2012. IIT, Jodhpur had not yet finalized the Architects and in IIT, Ropar, even the Master Plan for the campus was not ready. Similarly, seven IIMs, established during the Eleventh Five Year Plan were operating from their temporary campuses. The Committee recommended that a timeline needed to be set for all the new IITs and IIMs to fast track the pace of construction of permanent campuses for the benefit of students who were deprived of the facilities associated with permanent campuses.

1.28 The Committee in the Action Taken Replies have been informed about the dates on which the respective State Governments had transferred land for setting up of the 8 new IITs by the Department of Higher Education in the Table below:

S.NO.	Name of the IIT	Date of transfer of land
1.	IIT-Hyderabad	06.10.2008
2.	IIT-Indore	27.06.2012
3.	IIT-Ropar	12.06.2009
4.	IIT-Mandi	18.01.2011
5.	IIT-Bhubaneswar	10.02.2009 & 15.09.2010

6.	IIT-Gandhinagar	30.07.2012
7.	IIT-Jodhpur	07.03.2011
8.	IIT-Patna	19.04.2011

It further informed that the delay in constructions is primarily due to delayed transfer of land, free from all cumbrances, by the concerned State Governments. Students of IITs, Hyderabad, Patna and Gandhinagar will be shifting to their permanent campuses by July, 2015. IIT Mandi has partly shifted to its permanent campus whereas the IIT Jodhpur, IIT Ropar and IIT Indore are in the process of awarding the contracts. Revised time line targeted for constitution of permanent campus is July 2016-17 except for IIM Ranchi.

1.29 The Committee, while taking note of the revised timeline having been set for completion of IITs and IIMs by the Ministry, seek reasons as to why such delay has occurred in setting up of permanent campuses despite transfer of land having been executed latest by 2012. IITs at Hyderabad, Patna and Gandhinagar were to be shifted to permanent campus in July, 2015 but as for IITs at Jodhpur, Ropar and Indore, the other IITs are yet to shift to permanent campuses. The Government's reply is not clear on reasons of such inordinate delay and on the status of campuses of newly sanctioned IIMs. The Committee seek precise and concrete response of the Government in this regard. They reiterate that the procedure should be fast tracked to avoid such unjustifiable and inordinate delays so that the students are not further deprived of the facilities of a permanent campus.

I. Need to Promote Research and Innovation in Higher Education

(Observations/Recommendations Serial No. 20)

1.30 The Committee had observed that research and innovations are vital functions of

higher education. However, in terms of innovation, Indians file and receive only a small number of worldwide patent applications – merely 11,937 applications filed by Indians as compared to 2,41,546 by Chinese in 2009. The Committee, therefore, stressed that there is a need for an overall increase in the level of research spending from the current level of less than one per cent of GDP to over 2 per cent nationally, as pointed out by Planning Commission.

1.31 The Department of Higher Education in their Action Taken Replies stated that the University Grants Commission (UGC) 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), Centres with Potential for Excellence in a Particular Area (CPEPA) etc.

It further elaborated that the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has informed that in order to promote quality of technical education, it has introduced various schemes such as Research Promotion Scheme, Faculty Development Programme, Visiting Professorship, National Faculty in Engineering and Technology with Industrial Collaboration (NAFETIC), Innovation Programme Scheme and Quality Improvement Programme etc. It has also issued the Mandatory Accreditation of all Programs/Courses in Technical Education Institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education Regulations, 2014 which makes it mandatory for each technical education institution, university department and institution Deemed to be University imparting technical education to get its programs/courses accredited.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), the overall quality of existing State higher educational institutions is sought to be improved by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adoption of accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework. Certain academic, administrative and governance reforms are a precondition for receiving funding under RUSA.

1.32 The Committee note the measures initiated by the Ministry with regard to launch of Universities and colleges with potential for excellence along with scheme like Research Promotion Scheme being initiated by the AICTE and improving of overall quality of existing State Higher Educational Institutions under centrally sponsored scheme of RUSA, however, given the fact that none of these measures initiated has culminated into a tangible outcome, the Committee desire that the Ministry may provide details of the spending on Research and Innovation in Higher Education along with details of funds being allocated to these newly initiated centres for innovation and also indicate the utilization of these funds along with the total percentage of GDP being spent on Research and Higher Education in India during the last three years, year-wise. The Committee reiterate that the overall spending on Higher Education and Research needs to be increased and the Ministry should go beyond launching schemes and institutions of Research and Higher Education and instead monitor their output in order to fructify the recommendation of the Committee.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 2)

The Gross Enrolment Ratio in relation to population in age group of 18-23 years in higher education at national level is stated to be only 18.8 per cent (2010-11) which is well below the world average of 26 per cent. The Committee are glad to note in this connection that the target of increasing the GER from 12 per cent to 15 per cent during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period (2007-12) has been surpassed and GER of 18.8 per cent has been achieved one year ahead of 2011-12. The Committee hope that with the expansion of higher education sector in all its modes and incentivizing State Governments and Non-Governmental Organizations and addressing the challenges as discussed in this report, the GER will reach above the world average soon and the GER target of 25.2 per cent by 2017-18 and 30 per cent by 2020 will be achieved.

Reply by the Government

As per the recent data, GER in higher education is as follows:

2011-12 20.8

2012-13 21.1
(Provisional)

The growth of technical education in the country in last few years is appreciable and has greatly contributed to the increase in the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER). The following are the contributing factors for growth and expansion of technical institutions in the country:

- AICTE follows an open policy for establishing new technical education institutions throughout the country, subject to their fulfilment of all the norms and standards as per Approval Process Handbook.
- Institutions fulfilling norms and standards as per the Approval Process Handbook are also entitled for additional programmes/new division up to a maximum of two divisions (or two changes) in an academic year. In addition, one course per programme per level in first shift alone can be added on account of accreditation.
- Institutions fulfilling norms and standards are also allowed to open one additional division of 60 seats at Under Graduate level and two divisions at Post Graduate level in "Second shift"/Part time.

- All the institutes are allowed to admit 5% of the seats, as supernumerary seats under/tuition fee waiver scheme (TFWS).
- All the institution fulfilling norms & standards are allowed to start 2 additional divisions of 60 seats at UG level and 1 division of 60 seats in MCA as separate division in 2nd years under lateral entry scheme.
- AICTE has also taken initiatives by introducing the National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) for skill development in which select institutions are sanctioned 100 seats for each specialization, subject to a maximum of 500 seats, as a part of the Skill Development and encouragement to lifelong learning initiative of the government.
- These initiatives have resulted in capacity building amongst the institutes imparting technical education in the country.

Steps have been taken to enhance the GER of women and other deprived classes in Higher Education. These have been stated in detail in respect of recommendations no. 3 and 7. These steps will contribute to increase in GER.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 3)

The Committee are concerned to note that GER of women and higher education in India is only 16.50 per cent (2010-11) which is the lowest among BRICS and other economies – 2010, whereas the GER of China is way above at 27 per cent, Russian Federation 87 per cent and South Korea 86 per cent. It is observed from the MoHRD State-wise data that the GER of girls in higher education is highest in Goa at 30.9 per cent as per the data available for the latest year 2009-10 and the lowest in Odisha at 5.9 per cent. The Committee hardly need to emphasize that concerted efforts are needed with the co-operation of all State Governments to enhance women enrolment in higher education. The Committee regret to note that there are no special incentive schemes for promotion of higher education amongst women except Construction of Women Hostels in Colleges and Polytechnics and Establishment of Day Care Centres in Colleges. In this connection, the Committee feel that the hostel capacity in cities, which are major educational hubs, like Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Mumbai,

should be sufficient enough to accommodate all needy women students particularly those coming from the North-Eastern region of the country. The Committee hope that the Government will examine this aspect for appropriate action..

Reply by the Government

It has always been a constant endeavour of the Department of Higher Education to frame different schemes and projects to ensure larger participation and enrolment of women. Therefore, reducing the gender gap in higher education is a focus area. There has been a phenomenal growth in enrolment of women students in higher education in the country. The share of girls' enrolment which was less than 10% of the total enrolment on the eve of independence, has increased to 44.89% in the beginning of the academic year 2012-13. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in 2011-12 and 2012-13 is as below:

Table 19. GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO IN HIGHER EDUCATION (18-23 YEARS)

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	ALL CATEGORIES			SC			ST		
		MAL E	FEMALE	TOTAL	MAL E	FEMALE	TOTAL	MAL E	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	11.0	13.8	12.3	-	-	-	4.6	10.0	7.2
2	Andhra Pradesh	33.3	26.4	29.9	28.2	22.9	25.6	29.5	19.2	24.2
3	Arunachal Pradesh	22.5	20.2	21.3	-	-	-	27.1	22.7	24.8
4	Assam	14.6	14.8	14.7	12.8	12.2	12.5	15.7	16.0	15.9
5	Bihar	14.0	10.8	12.5	9.4	6.1	7.8	15.9	14.0	15.0
6	Chandigarh	33.2	54.4	42.2	15.3	22.5	18.5	-	-	-
7	Chhatisgarh	11.0	10.1	10.5	8.8	7.3	8.1	4.9	4.5	4.7
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.5	5.8	6.2	2.9	0.9	1.9
9	Daman & Diu	3.0	6.2	3.9	11.6	18.5	14.8	17.4	7.5	12.5
10	Delhi	38.9	39.0	38.9	19.7	17.0	18.5	-	-	-
11	Goa	21.5	25.9	23.5	21.0	24.5	22.7	11.8	13.6	12.7
12	Gujarat	18.1	14.7	16.5	18.3	15.1	16.8	9.5	8.7	9.1
13	Haryana	28.3	27.7	28.0	18.3	16.6	17.5	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	24.6	25.1	24.8	13.9	13.9	13.9	19.0	19.6	19.3
15	Jammu and Kashmir	21.8	24.0	22.8	8.9	12.1	10.5	8.0	5.8	6.9
16	Jharkhand	10.2	9.5	9.9	6.5	4.9	5.8	5.3	6.0	5.6

18	Kerala	17.8	25.6	21.8	12.0	21.8	16.9	12.9	15.0	14.0
19	Lakshadweep	6.2	17.5	11.5	-	-	-	1.5	4.9	3.2
20	Madhya Pradesh	22.0	14.6	18.5	13.7	10.9	12.4	8.4	5.8	7.1
21	Maharashtra	28.1	24.3	26.3	25.7	22.0	23.9	14.2	8.6	11.4
22	Manipur	30.4	29.9	30.2	55.0	54.6	54.8	20.5	18.2	19.4
23	Meghalaya	16.3	18.5	17.4	33.5	32.5	33.0	13.6	16.1	14.9
24	Mizoram	19.6	18.3	19.0	78.4	112.7	90.8	20.0	18.4	19.2
25	Nagaland	18.2	13.4	15.8	-	-	-	11.7	12.8	12.3
26	Odisha	18.3	15.0	16.6	10.0	8.4	9.2	7.2	6.0	6.6
27	Puducherry	40.4	36.3	38.3	31.3	26.6	28.8	-	-	-
28	Punjab	22.4	23.6	23.0	8.0	8.8	8.4	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	20.6	15.5	18.2	14.1	9.3	11.8	15.1	10.1	12.7
30	Sikkim	28.9	27.4	28.2	28.9	26.8	27.8	15.6	22.4	19.0
31	Tamil Nadu	43.2	36.8	40.0	30.3	26.7	28.5	36.1	29.1	32.5
32	Tripura	14.6	10.2	12.4	12.6	8.5	10.6	8.3	4.8	6.4
33	Uttar Pradesh	17.5	17.2	17.4	12.6	13.2	12.9	23.6	17.2	20.5
34	Uttrakhand	30.1	32.3	31.1	17.1	17.2	17.2	39.1	41.4	40.2
35	West Bengal	15.4	11.8	13.6	10.2	7.6	9.0	7.7	5.3	6.4
All India		22.1	19.4	20.8	15.8	13.9	14.9	12.4	9.7	11.0

AISHE Report 2012-13

Table 11. GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO IN HIGHER EDUCATION (18-23 YEARS)

Sl. No.	STATES/UTs	ALL CATEGORIES			SC			ST		
		MAL E	FEMALE	TOTAL	MAL E	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14.4	17.5	15.9	-	-	-	6.0	12.6	9.2
2	Andhra Pradesh	32.7	25.4	29.1	27.7	22.0	24.9	28.9	18.5	23.6
3	Arunachal Pradesh	20.3	18.2	19.3	-	-	-	24.4	20.6	22.4
4	Assam	12.8	12.8	12.8	11.3	10.5	10.9	13.8	13.8	13.8
5	Bihar	12.4	9.9	11.2	8.3	5.5	6.9	14.1	12.8	13.4
6	Chandigarh	48.5	55.2	51.3	22.3	22.8	22.5	-	-	-
7	Chhatisgarh	12.4	11.2	11.8	9.9	8.1	9.0	5.6	5.0	5.3
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.7	7.4	6.3	5.8	6.9	6.3	2.6	1.1	1.8
9	Daman & Diu	3.3	6.9	4.3	13.1	20.5	16.5	19.5	8.3	14.0
10	Delhi	37.9	39.2	38.5	19.3	17.1	18.2	-	-	-

12	Gujarat	19.5	15.5	17.6	19.8	15.9	18.0	10.2	9.2	9.7
13	Haryana	29.1	28.1	28.7	18.8	16.8	17.9	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	23.5	24.0	23.8	13.3	13.3	13.3	18.2	18.8	18.5
15	Jammu and Kashmir	23.7	24.5	24.1	9.7	12.4	11.0	8.7	5.9	7.3
16	Jharkhand	10.3	9.8	10.1	6.6	5.1	5.9	5.3	6.2	5.7
17	Karnataka	26.3	24.6	25.5	18.4	15.4	16.9	16.7	13.8	15.3
18	Kerala	18.9	26.9	22.9	12.7	22.9	17.8	13.7	15.8	14.8
19	Lakshadweep	6.3	17.7	11.8	-	-	-	1.6	4.9	3.2
20	Madhya Pradesh	23.3	15.2	19.5	14.6	11.3	13.1	8.9	6.0	7.5
21	Maharashtra	27.2	23.8	25.6	24.8	21.6	23.3	13.7	8.4	11.1
22	Manipur	30.5	30.2	30.3	55.2	55.2	55.2	20.6	18.4	19.5
23	Meghalaya	17.0	17.5	17.3	35.1	30.8	33.0	14.2	15.2	14.7
24	Mizoram	21.5	21.0	21.3	86.4	128.6	101.7	21.9	21.1	21.5
25	Nagaland	16.2	11.5	13.9	-	-	-	10.4	11.0	10.7
26	Odisha	16.7	14.1	15.4	9.2	7.9	8.5	6.6	5.6	6.1
27	Puducherry	45.3	39.1	42.1	35.1	28.7	31.8	-	-	-
28	Punjab	21.8	23.8	22.7	7.8	8.9	8.3	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	20.1	16.2	18.2	13.7	9.7	11.8	14.7	10.5	12.7
30	Sikkim	21.4	25.9	23.6	21.4	25.2	23.3	11.5	21.2	16.4
31	Tamil Nadu	45.4	38.7	42.0	31.8	28.1	29.9	37.9	30.6	34.2
32	Tripura	16.4	11.6	14.0	14.2	9.7	11.9	9.3	5.4	7.2
33	Uttar Pradesh	18.1	18.2	18.1	13.0	13.9	13.4	24.4	18.1	21.3
34	Uttarakhand	32.3	34.0	33.1	18.4	18.1	18.3	42.0	43.6	42.8
35	West Bengal	16.8	13.2	15.0	11.2	8.5	9.9	8.3	5.9	7.1
	All India	22.3	19.8	21.1	16.0	14.2	15.1	12.4	9.7	11.0

AISHE Report 2012-13

It may be seen from the Table No. 19 –GER in the Higher Education (18-23 years) for the year 2011-12 for all categories female GER 19.4 against a total of 20.08 and SC/ST GER is 13.9 & 9.7 respectively.

In the year 2012-13, GER has increased for female categories 19.8 against 19.4 of 2011-12. There is also improvement in SC categories as it has reached to 14.2 from 13.9. In the case of ST the figures are same for the years at 9.7.

There had been a phenomenal growth in the number of women students enrolled in higher education, since independence. The women enrolment which was less than 10 per cent of the total enrolment on the eve of Independence had risen to 43.28 per cent in the academic year 2012-2013.

The pace of growth has been particularly faster in the last two decades. As the data in Table show that the number of women enrolled per hundred men registered more than five times in 2012-2013 as compared to 1950-1951.

Women Students Per Hundred Men Students

Year	Total Enrolment (000s)	Women Enrolment Women Per Hundred Men
1950-51	40	14
2012-13	9306	76.31

From the following Table also, one can find as many as 2058 women colleges have so far been established during the XI Plan as compared to the figure at the end of X Plan (2208), thus resulting in 93% increase in the number of women colleges established. As on 31.03.2013, there had been 4386 colleges exclusively for women.

Number of Women Colleges during the period 1997-1998 – 2012-2013

Year	Number of Women Colleges
1997-1998	1260
1998-1999	1359
1999-2000	1503
2000-2001	1578
2001-2002	1756
2002-2003	1824
2003-2004	1871
2004-2005	1977
2005-2006	2071
2006-2007	2208
2007-2008	2360

2008-2009	2565
2009-2010	3612
2010-2011	3982
2011-2012	4266
2012-2013	4386*

* Provisional and includes Nursing Colleges for Women

Construction of Women's Hostels:

The UGC has been providing hostels and other infrastructural facilities to achieve the goal of enhancing the status of women and harness the potential availability for the development of the society, as also to bring about gender equity and equal representation of women through a special scheme 'construction of women's hotels'. The main objective is to support all the eligible colleges for construction of hostels for women in order to provide a residential place for women students/researchers/teachers and other staff. The Colleges which come within the purview of the UGC and are fit to receive central assistance under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act, are eligible to receive financial assistance. During the XI Plan period the U.G.C. approved/sanctioned a total of 285 Women Hostels in Minority Concentrated Districts (MCDs). During 2012-13, 25 Women Hostels and 68 Women Hostels have been approved in MCDs by September, 2013 during current year. This assistance will be on cent percent basis subject to the ceilings given below:-

(Amount in lakhs)

Women Enrolment	Amount in respect of Non-Metropolitan cities	Amount in respect of Metropolitan cities
(a) Upto 250	40	80.00
(b) 251-500	60	100.00
(c) More than 500	80	120.00

UGC has been providing financial assistance for the construction of women hostels under the Scheme “Women Hostels” to all eligible universities and colleges to achieve the goal of enhancing the enrolment of women.

Further, to increase women enrolment in higher education, UGC has been providing financial assistance to women under the dedicated Fellowships/Scholarships Schemes such as Post-doctoral Fellowship for Women, Indira Gandhi Post-graduate Scholarships for Single Girl Child and Single Girl Child Fellowship Scheme.

In addition, UGC provides funds for the development of women studies in Indian universities and colleges under the Scheme “Women Study Centres”. The Scheme emphasized mentoring, partnership and clustering as well as orientation and training workshops.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para No. 1.8 of Chapter-I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 4)

The Committee find that central assistance scheme launched in the year 2010 for establishment of a Model Degree College each in 374 low GER districts in higher education is yet to be implemented fully because of fund constraints of State Governments. So far, only 86 proposals have been approved out of which only 50 colleges have been operationalised. Though the scheme is a step to increase access with equity and quality and aimed to improved GER, the progress in implementation has been very slow. The Committee have been informed that the question of transforming the Central Assistance Scheme into a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is under consideration. The Committee recommend that an expeditious decision be taken in the matter and the scheme implemented in right earnest in a time bound manner under intimation to the Committee. The Committee incidentally desire that all stake holders in the scheme need to be actively involved in the same so as to ensure their participation as well as to avoid any corrupt practices in the implementation of the scheme.

Reply by the Government

The new Centrally Sponsored Scheme – Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) has since been launched. The details of the scheme has been enumerated in reply to the Recommendation No.5 and 6.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para No. 1.11 of Chapter-I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 5)

The Committee have been informed by the Department of Higher Education that the review of new schemes launched in the Eleventh Plan is being carried out. The Committee would await the outcome of the review and the action taken thereon.

Reply by the Government

The old scheme for establishment of model degree colleges in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts in the country launched in 11th Plan has been subsumed in newly Centrally Sponsored Scheme Rashtriya Uchchar Siksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for 12th and 13th Plan period.

The Cabinet, on 3.10.2013, gave its approval for the implementation of the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). RUSA will focus on strengthening State Universities through various components such as creation of colleges/universities, upgrading existing institutions, infrastructure grants for higher educational institutions etc. The funding to states would be made on the basis of critical appraisal of State Higher Education Plans. These plans would address each State's strategy to address issues of equity, access and excellence in higher education.

RUSA is intended to continue through two plan periods i.e the 12th and 13th Plan. RUSA has a total outlay of Rs 22,855 crores in the 12th Plan period, out of which the Central Share comes out to be Rs 16,227 (the amount excludes allocation of Rs. 1800 crores for the existing sub-mission of "Support for the polytechnics in the States"). Centre - State funding is in the ratio of 90:10 for North-Eastern States, J&K, Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand and 65:35 for other States and Union Territories. Support would be extended to only government and government aided institutions. The Project Approval Board (PAB) and the National Mission Authority of RUSA were formed through a Resolution in the extra-ordinary Gazette of India.

RUSA provides funding for establishment of Universities through upgradation of Autonomous Colleges, creation of Universities by conversion of colleges into cluster, Creation of New Professional Colleges, New Model Degree Colleges, Upgradation of existing colleges to Model Degree Colleges, etc.,

As on 17th March, 2015, 29 States and 5 Union Territories (UTs) are on board. 24 States have submitted their State Higher Education Plans (SHEPs). Out of them 16 SHEPs have been approved by the Project Approval Board. As on 17th March, 2015, an amount of Rs.418 crore (excluding sub-mission on Polytechnics) has been released for various components under RUSA scheme.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para No. 1.11 of Chapter-I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 6)

The Committee note that State Universities and colleges that constitute the bulk of Higher Education Institutes are poorly funded and suffer from acute quality deficit. In order to incentivise States to step up investment in higher education, the Central Government is reportedly finalizing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to fund and support institutions in the State higher education system. The funding will be norm based and outcome dependent and will require certain conditions such as commitment to academic, administrative and governance reforms for receiving funding under RUSA. Centre-State funding is to be in the ratio of 65:35, for Special Category States 75:25 and for North East Region and Jammu & Kashmir 90:10. The Committee hope that the scheme will be finalised soon and the Committee apprised of the features of the scheme as finally approved.

Reply by the Government

The scheme of “Setting up of Model Degree Colleges in 374 Educationally Backward Districts of the Country” has now been subsumed under the new Centrally Sponsored

Scheme Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) which has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. RUSA is envisaged the prime vehicle for strategic funding of State Institutions to ensure that issues of access, equity and quality are addressed in an equitable manner. The scheme aims to increase the Gross enrolment ratio (GER) for higher education to 30% by 2020 through initiatives like creation of colleges and universities, establishing model degree colleges, providing support for infrastructural upgradation and research and innovation. The Centre: State ratio for grants is 90:10 for Special Category States (NER, J&K, HP and Uttarakhand) and 65:35 for other States/UTs. As on 31st March, 2015, 28 States and 5 UTs had indicated their willingness to participate in RUSA and an amount of Rs. 436.37/- crore had been released under various components of RUSA.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para No. 1.11 of Chapter-I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 7)

The percentage share of students enrolled in higher education is only 11.76 per cent as against the statutory stipulation of 15 per cent in the case of Scheduled Castes and 5.2 per cent as against the stipulated of 7.5 per cent in case of Scheduled Tribes. In order to make higher education more responsive to the needs of SC/ST, the SCs/STs Cells and the Task Forces constituted by the National Monitoring Committee in the Department of Higher Education must ensure that various measures and schemes launched to promote higher education amongst SCs/STs are implemented and intended benefits reach them. The Committee would await the results of the efforts made in this regard. The Committee also desire that desirability of fixing lower cut-off marks for admission in higher education institutions, for students hailing from rural and remote areas be examined for appropriate

action.

Reply by the Government

As per the recent data, percentage enrolment of SC & ST in total enrolment in Higher Education is as follows:

Year	Percentage SC Enrolment	Percentage ST Enrolment
2011-12	12.2%	4.5%
2012-13 (Provisional)	12.3%	4.4%

UGC has issued guidelines for strict observation of Reservation Policy of the Government in Universities, Deemed to be Universities, Colleges and other Grant-in-Aid Institutions and Centres vide letter No.F.1-5/2006(SCT) dated 25-08-2006. As per Guidelines Para No.9 – Procedure to be followed in matter of reservation for admission:-

In cases of admission, the following procedures are also to be followed:

- (i) No SC/ST student can seek admission or claim reservation, unless he/she appears in national or State/common or University/Institution tests held for the purpose, in order to avail the quota of seats reserved for them, by the educational Institutions referred to in sub- clause(a) of clause 6 above guidelines;
- (ii) In cases, where National or Common/State or University/Institution test is not prescribed as necessary for selecting candidates for admission, the SC/ST candidates seeking admission, shall be arranged in the order of merit among themselves, as per the merit position obtained in the qualifying examination:

Rules of reservation are applicable for under-graduate levels and research degrees;
Percentage of reservation shall be applied separately for each academic year, and not whenever interviews take place, or recruitment is made;

Rule of interchange ability among SCs and STs are applicable, wherever, necessary to fill-up the number of vacant seats;

In case no eligible reserved candidates are available, the vacant seats in the reserved quota shall not be filled by any non SC/ST candidates. Every effort shall be made to re-advertise for wider publicity in the leading national news papers;

Advance special (short term) coaching with assistance from UGC may be introduced for

prospective SC/ST students:

In the Universities where central Registration for admission of SC/ST students has been introduced, all admission process must be completed at the central level itself, and the assigned Colleges, Institutes or centres as the case may be only permitted to make attempts to fill in the vacant SC/ST seats, at their instance;

All institutions referred to in sub-clause (a) of clause (6) should give the maximum possible encouragement and support to girls of SC/ST in admission.

Further, a Gazette Notification No.33 dated 20-06-2012 has been circulated by UGC letter No. 1-5/2006(SCT) dated 19.11.12 to all Universities regarding reservation of seats in Central Educational Institutions.

The following measures and schemes have been adopted by AICTE to promote higher education amongst SC and STs in the country:

- I. The minimum eligibility criteria in respect of the qualifying marks for admission to technical programmes, prescribed for candidates belonging to SC/ST category is 5% lower than the corresponding minimum qualifying marks prescribed for the general category students. The relevant details as described in the Approval Process Handbook is enclosed as **Annexure-1**.
- II. AICTE has recently taken an initiative to provide hostel accommodation exclusively for the students belonging to SC/ST category who have been admitted to good engineering institutions in the country. AICTE has devised a scheme which provides financial assistance for construction of hostel for boys/girls as per need of the institutions. The scheme aims to support Government/Government/Government aided/University managed engineering institutions for construction of hostel for SC/ST students. These hostels also have add-on facility of Community Skill Development Centre for empowering SC/ST students with better communication and technical skills. The eligibility criteria for the scheme consists of a minimum age of the institute of 05 years and enrolment of 150 or more SC/ST students for the last 3 years. A financial grant of Rs.2.00 Crores per institute for construction of hostel within a period of 2 years from the date of sanction of proposal is given to the selected institutions. The list of 47 institutes already approved and disbursed with first instalment of funding is enclosed at **Annexure-2**.
- III.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 8)

In so far as persons with disabilities are concerned, the Committee feel that the Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) which mandate that all Government websites should conform to the international accessibility standards, the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 should be ensured so that a disabled person, using different assistive technologies to browse the web, can access their website. Secondly, all the educational institutions should adhere to the model building bye-laws which require construction of ramps, railings and other specialized fittings in order to be disabled-friendly. The Committee desire that these measures must be implemented in a specific time-frame.

Reply by the Government

“The observation of the committee for the adherence to the GIGW is being conveyed to NIC, which is maintaining the MHRD’s website & Prof. Uma Kanjilal, IGNOU who is in charge of Sakshat portal (<http://archive.sakshat.ac.in/>) to follow the GIGW guidelines. Moreover, necessary standards towards disable friendly as per WCAG, are being conveyed to PIs for adoption in the e-content development for its universal accessibility. Further, as most of the content is being done in video/ audio lectures which has distinct voice over along with subtitles is meeting the requirements of certain disabilities.”

Facilitating PwD students under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Integrating PwDs in the mainstream of Technical and Vocational Education: The decision of the Ministry that henceforth no fee of any kind should be charged from the PwDs students. however, the Polytechnics, if required, may charge only examination fee from these students that too when the students get their Scholarship amount, has already been issued to the Heads of all polytechnics covered under the CSS Scheme. (Copy of the letter is enclosed at **Annexure-3**)

Expert Committee constituted to identify the courses according to the categories of disabilities: In order to increase the employability of PwDs the Ministry of Human Resource Development had constituted an Expert Committee to identify suitable courses according to the categories of disabilities under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Neelam Nath, IAS, Former Secretary (ESW), M/o Defence. The Committee has submitted its report on 14th May, 2014 and the same has already been circulated among all stakeholders for further necessary action. The broad areas of recommendations are given below :

- (i) Access to all courses
- (ii) Expanding HEPSN Scheme to private institution
- (iii) Mapping Jobs with Academic Studies

- (iv) Orientation of higher education professionals on disability management
- (v) Strengthening Higher Secondary Education for persons with disabilities
- (vi) Increasing funding for higher education
- (vii) Extension of Polytechnic Scheme
- (viii) Award for higher education institutions practicing Inclusion
- (ix) Documentation of good practices in the disability sector
- (x) Training courses on employability skills

Committee to suggest guidelines for utilizing the funds for PwD : A one man Committee of Shri Bhushan Punani, a Member of NMC has been constituted to suggest the guidelines on the pattern of guidelines prepared for implementation of SCSP/TSP, for utilizing the funds for PwD students keeping in view the various provisions contained in the PwD Act.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and Delhi High Court had pronounced various judgments on implementation of various provisions of the PwD Act. The Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT), keeping in view the above directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, has modified Para 14 of the O.M. No.36035/3/2004-Estt.(Res.), dated 29.12.2005 – through which consolidated instructions regarding reservation for PwDs were issued. Accordingly, all Centrally Funded Higher Educational Institutions were advised to take necessary action. The advisory was reiterated at the level of Secretary (HE) on 10.7.2014.

The Department has also issued instructions at Secretary (HE) level, vide letter dated 10.7.2014 to all the Centrally Funded Higher Educational Institutions for implementation of the provisions of the PwD Act like providing barrier free environment in the buildings, which would include provision of ramps, rails, lifts, adaptation of toilets for wheelchair users, brail signages and auditory signals, tactile flooring etc and making the Institution's website accessible for PwDs. They have also been advised, if need be, to avail the benefits of Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment's "Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA)" in this regard. (Issued letter is enclosed at **Annexure-4**)

AICTE has implemented model building bye laws which require construction of ramps/railings and other specialized fitting for disabled friendly students and staff in any educational institution **as a mandatory** provision. It is an integral part of the approval process in respect of new institution and also existing institutions. The relevant clause of the Approval Process Handbook is enclosed as **Annexure-5**. The Expert Committee that visits the institution for physical verification of infrastructure and facilities ensures the implementation and compliance of the said norms. Institutions that do not comply with the requirements are issued show-cause notices and appropriate disciplinary actions are initiated.

In addition, as per the centrally supported scheme of MHRD for upgrading existing polytechnics to integrate Persons with Physical Disabilities in the mainstream of Technical

and Vocational education, AICTE has granted additional intake of 25 seats each for persons with disability in 50 Government Polytechnics throughout the country as per the provisions of the scheme. A list of the institutes is enclosed as **Annexure-6.**

SPA Bhopal has informed that the website of SPA, Bhopal is disabled friendly for visually impaired. Steps have been initiated to make it friendly for hearing impaired also. The newly constructed campus of SPA Bhopal at Bhauri is made barrier free with ramps, handrails all over the buildings to negotiate level differences. This includes academic complex as well as hostel blocks. The campus design approach is to follow Universal Design Principle making entire campus enable for all persons with all abilities. Not only the existing campus is made barrier free, SPA, Bhopal is running a research centre called Centre for Human Centric Research which sensitize/train students of Architecture for barrier free design. The Centre conducts research and design development related with inclusive design to include all marginalized populations and people with disabilities. It has provided consultancy to State Government related with subject. The Centre has published a book named "Uniting Differences – Inclusive Design for World Heritage Sites in India" which sensitizes larger population for barrier free design with example of World Heritage Sites. SPA Vijayawada has informed that SPA Vijayawada is in the process of upgrading its website to ensure that a disabled person can access the website. SPA, Vijayawada new campus buildings, coming up with Rs.150.00 crores outlay are designed adhering to the model bye-laws including construction of ramps and railings to enable them to be disabled friendly. SPA, Delhi has informed that provision of ramps has been made in all the buildings. Disabled friendly toilets have been provided in the Planning Building and arrangements for disabled friendly toilet in the toilets in Architecture Buildings are being included. Lift has also been installed in Annex of the Planning Building.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 9)

The Committee observe that the growth in enrolment in Arts, Sciences and Laws in Higher Education was less than the growth in Engineering, education and Medicine during the period from 2006-07 to 2011-12. The Growth of enrolment in Arts, Sciences, Management ranged between 43 and 95 per cent, whereas the growth in Engineering, Education, and Medicine ranged between 134 and 332 per cent during the period. Humanities and Social Sciences are critical to higher education. In order to promote study of Humanities and Social Sciences and to improve their quality of teaching and research, the MoHRD has proposed a total outlay of about Rs. 211 crore under the National initiative for Excellence in Humanities and Social

Sciences during 2013-14. The Committee would like to be apprised of the results of this initiative. The Committee find that enrolment of students in agriculture was just 0.48 per cent and in veterinary sciences 0.14 per cent during 2011-12. The Committee feel that our economy being predominantly agrarian, there is a need to promote interest of students in agriculture and allied fields, if necessary by providing sufficient incentives.

Reply by the Government

The Growth rate is varied in different States in the country and some States have shown better results during the past few years, whereas some States have shown improvement in GER in respect of subject wise enrolment. The number of colleges and universities have also increased tremendously with the result in increase in overall enrolment. There has also been growth in different programmes in Technical Education. During 2013-14 alone, out of the total enrolment of students (237.65 lakh), 36.57% students had been in the Faculty of Arts followed by 17.23% in Science and 7.60% in Commerce/ Management. Thus, 71% of the total enrolment had been in these faculties Arts, Science and Commerce/Management while remaining 29% had been in the professional faculties recording the highest percentage in Engineering/ Technology (15.55%) which includes Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology and Architecture etc. followed by Education (5.42%) and Medical Courses (4.18%) etc. in students enrolment 2005-07. Agriculture Engineering & Veterinary Science has been seen as developmental growth and interest of students in primary sectors like Agriculture.

Comments of the Committee

(please see para No. 1.14 of Chapter I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 10)

According to an estimate of Planning Commission, developed economies and even China will face a shortage of about 40 million highly skilled manpower by 2020 while India is likely to have some surplus of graduates in 2020, which can fill the global shortage to some extent. The Committee regret to note that in this connection that although the approved outlay for higher education was Rs. 84,943 crore during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Department of Higher Education could utilize only Rs. 39,647 crore which accounts for just 46.67 per cent. The MoHRD has attributed the slow pace of expenditure during the Eleventh Five Year Plan to a time consuming process of approvals to new initiatives of setting up new educational institutions, comprising 30 Central Universities, 8 IITs, 10 NITs, 20 IIITs, 3 IISERs, 2 SPAs, 374 Model Colleges and 1000 Polytechnics. The Committee observe that many of these initiatives are still at a very nascent stage. The Committee urge the Department of Higher Education to closely monitor implementation of the initiatives and ensure that the Twelfth Plan outlay does not meet the same fate as that of the Eleventh Plan and also ensure that India captures a higher share of global knowledge based work.

Reply by the Government

Allocation and expenditure of Department of Higher Education during XII plan (till December, 2014) is as follows

(Rs. In crore)

2012-13			2013-14			2014-15	
BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	Actual Exp.
15458	13479	12726.48	16210	14697.99	14244.45	16900	12584.93

The Government of India after obtaining the approval of Union Cabinet has established ten new NITs in the States/UTs of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Goa (also catering to the needs of Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep), Delhi (also catering to the needs of Chandigarh), Uttarakhand and Puducherry (also catering to the needs of A&N Islands) during 11th Five Year Plan (2007-2012). Land for permanent campus was already earmarked for all ten new NITs. However, the physical transfer of land in respect of NITs-Goa and Sikkim is yet to be done by the respective State Government. The issue of transfer of land has repeatedly taken up with the State Government concerned at Secy (HE) as well as HRM level. The construction of boundary wall and building works at the permanent campus of NITs-Arunachal Pradesh,

Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Puducherry are underway. It is expected that the same would be initiated in NITs- Delhi and Uttarakhand shortly.

The Development of new Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) and Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) is being monitored closely. The status of construction of permanent campus of IIMs and IISERs is at **Annexure-7**.

A scheme to establish twenty new Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIIT), on a Not-for-profit Public Private Partnership (N-PPP) basis has been approved by the Cabinet on 7.12.2010.

No funds were released under the Scheme of "Setting up IIITs in PPP mode" during 11th Plan period (2007-08 to 2011-12). Grant release position during 12th Plan period is as under:-

Status of funds released to IIITs in PPP mode under the Scheme of "Setting up IIITs in PPP mode"				
<i>Rs. in crore</i>				
		2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
		Released	Released	Released
1	IIIT Kota (Rajasthan)	3.75	0	.85
2	IIIT Guwahati (Assam)	0	5.00	2.95
3	IIIT Tiruchirappali (Tamil Nadu)	0	5.00	0
4	IIIT Una (Himachal Pradesh)	0	2.038	0
5	IIIT Vadodara (Gujarat)	0	2.80	0
6	IIIT Kalyani (West Bengal)	0	0	1.00
7	IIIT Chittoor (Andhra Pradesh)	0	0	4.00

Out of 3 IISERs, two have moved to their permanent campus.

Out of 10 new NITs, two have already moved to permanent campus, others are expected to move during 2015-16, 2017-18. State Government yet to allot land for NIT Goa, Sikkim.

The Scheme on 'Setting up of Polytechnics' envisaged establishment of 1000 new polytechnics (300 in Govt. Sector, 400 in Private Sector & 300 under PPP mode). Out of these 300 polytechnics in Govt. Sector with Central assistance, 101 have already become operational and another 190 are at various stages of construction. In the case of 400 polytechnics under private sector, after 2007 a large number of private polytechnics were established in almost all States/UTs across the country and the number of polytechnics established after 2007 far exceeds the target of 400, However, as there are no takers for establishing polytechnics under the PPP mode, establishment of 300 polytechnics under the PPP mode has not taken off.

The observations of the Committee have been noted and the progress of implementation of the scheme is being monitored closely in consultation with the State Governments.

Out of the institutions listed in the recommendation, UGC provides financial assistance to Central Universities. UGC has requested all Central Universities to expedite the speed up to utilization of expenditure. Further release of Plan grant to Central Universities is being done only after receiving Utilization of expenditure upto 70% of the earlier releases.

A statement of expenditure of funds given by UGC to Central Universities under XII plan is given below.

Sr No.	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp. (as on 10 12-14)
1	210000.00	202919.15	220000.00	222690.00	180000.00	88590.34

As the above statement shows the expenditure for the first two years of XII Plan amounts to 100 percent. To ensure proper utilization of funds by Central Universities, a rigorous monitoring system is in place. In addition to the annual financial audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, amounts are released to Central Universities only after receipt of Utilization Certificates of earlier releases. UGC also conducts 6 monthly meetings with the Central Universities to review the pace of their plan and non-plan expenditure and progress on the submission of Annual Accounts.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 12)

There are 40 Central universities which are fully funded by the MoHRD through University Grants Commission. The Committee note that the utilization of funds allocated by UGC to these universities was just 73 per cent in 2010-11 which improved to 97 per cent in 2011-12. Utilization remained as low as 30 per cent for first three quarters of 2012-13. The Committee would like to highlight the case of University of Delhi where only 35 per cent of total allocation was utilized in 2010-11, 78 per cent in 2011-12 and 11 per cent upto December, 2012 in 2012-13. The Committee feel that such gross under utilization of funds indicates lack of proper planning on the part of Central Universities and absence of mechanism to oversee their functioning. The Committee urge that as decided in the Council of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities, academic audit and review by External Peer Review Board (EPRB) should be held expeditiously and the Committee be informed of the outcome.

Reply by the Government

UGC requested the all Central Universities to expedite the utilization of expenditure. However, any further release of Plan grant to Central Universities is being released only after receiving Utilization of expenditure upto 70% of the earlier releases. Maintenance grant is being released to Central Universities only after submission of Utilisation Certificates on provisional basis in respect of grants of the preceding financial year. Release of grants-in-aid in excess of 75% of the total amount sanctioned for the subsequent financial year shall be done only after the Utilization Certificate and the Annual Audited Statement relating to grants-in-aid released in the preceding year are submitted to the satisfaction of UGC.

With regard to review of fiscal performance, the accounts of Central Universities are mandatorily subjected to audit by the Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG) of India every year and the Annual Accounts duly audited are required to be tabled in both Houses of the Parliament. Further, the University Grants Commission (UGC) reviews the financial performance of each Central University on a periodical basis for ensuring proper utilization of funds and for providing further financial assistance to the Universities. Release of Plan and Non-Plan grant is linked to submission of Annual Accounts and Annual Reports in the Parliament for the preceding year. UGC will convene a mid-term review on the academic and physical performance of the Central Universities. However, as an immediate measure, UGC also convened a meeting with the Registrar and Finance Officer of Central Universities on 7th-8th January, 2015 to discuss the Action Plan of the University for utilization of funds during XII Plan and filling up of vacant teaching positions.

Further, as per decision taken in the Council of VCs of Central Universities held on on 25th

October, 2012 at New Delhi, it was pointed out that the Central Universities Acts have a provision for a review of the University by the Visitor from time to time. It was agreed that the External Peer Review Board should comprise of minimum 5 members instead of the fixed number 5. The Executive Council should provide a panel of names for the review and the Council could further add to or modify the panel before submission to the Visitor for his approval. The review has to be based on pre-determined and quantifiable parameters to be evolved through Committees of Experts. It was also resolved in the meeting that there should be clear set of guidelines to be issued by the ministry.

Comments of the Committee

(please see para No. 1.20 of Chapter I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 14)

The Committee find that a Central Sector Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans has been launched for students belonging to economically weaker sections who avail such loans from scheduled banks as well as co-operative banks from the academic year 2009-10 onwards. The Committee would like to know the targets and achievements of the Scheme till now. Appreciating it as a right step, the Committee further desire that the Ministry must also endeavour to find out and remove operational difficulties faced by students in availing educational loans from banks, particularly concerning collateral security demanded by the banks, cumbersome procedures, etc. The Committee also feel that the Ministry of HRD should come out with appropriate schemes, particularly for women and minorities so as to correct the imbalances and inadequate opportunities of higher education to these groups.

Reply by the Government

A Central Sector Scheme titled "Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans from Scheduled banks for professional education of students from economically weaker Sections" was launched from the academic year 2009-10 onwards. The Scheme has also been made applicable on educational loans from the Co-operative Banks.

The Scheme was launched with the objective to ensure that no one is denied access to professional education only for the reason that he or she is poor, as the Scheme benefits all those students belonging to economically weaker Sections, with an annual income up to

Rs.4.5 lakh per year, and to ensure financial support to students from the weaker sections of the society.

The Scheme provides for full interest subsidy during the period of moratorium (i.e. duration of a recognised professional course plus 1 year or 6 months after employment – whichever is earlier) on educational loans availed of by all students belonging to economically weaker Sections.

At the time of launch of scheme, it was assessed that the scheme will benefit about 2 lakh students annually in getting technical and professional education. However up to FY 2013-14, cumulatively, so far Rs.4642.26 crore in nearly 45 lakh accounts have been released to the Member Banks since 2009-10, for remitting the same to the individual students accounts. The pending amount for the FY 2013-14 to be settled by MHRD is RS.811.59 Crore. Besides an amount of Rs.6,93,087/-, Rs.7,59,830/- & Rs.10,95,649/- has been released to NSCFDC, NSTFDC & NSKFDC, respectively. Budget provisions of Rs.2,081 Crore has been made for the year 2014-15. An amount of Rs.312.15 crore and Rs.156.08 crore has been made for SCSP and TSP, respectively, from out of Rs.2081 crore. The brief details of interest subsidy given to various categories of beneficiaries, including women & minorities, are as under:-

RA BANK IN RESPECT OF YEAR WISE CLAIMS SETTLED BY MOHRD, GOI, UNDER CENTRAL SECTOR EDUCATION

SUMMARY

CATEGORY WISE CLAIM DETAILS

GENERAL		Scheduled Caste		Scheduled Tribe	
	Amount	A/Cs	Amount	A/Cs	Amount
75	277.2	45381	17.23	5043	2.0
56	692.03	56831	37.74	6733	5.0
82	1128.51	61557	54.99	7447	15.0
21	1511.38	67549	81.55	52435	88.0
30	627.09	57356	74.87	13306	27.0
	4236.21	288674	266.38	84964	139.0

* The balance amount of Rs.811.59 Crore is to be settled by MoHRD out of the total claim of Rs.1540.77 Crore for the FY 2013-14.

UT OF ABOVE

All Banks	Women	% To Total Claim		Minority	% To Total Claim		Disabled	% To Total Claim	
		Amo			Amoun	Amo		Amo	

2009-10	223950	94.22	34.76	31.74	249312	107.95	38.70	36.36	4156	2.31	0.65	0.78
2010-11	316586	241.82	35.24	32.88	333226	273.79	37.09	37.23	8650	7.42	0.96	1.01
2011-12	345894	392.2	35.17	32.71	365037	452.87	37.11	37.77	11087	14.01	1.13	1.17
2012-13	376379	552.97	34.93	32.88	397677	637.25	36.91	37.89	53376	89.97	4.95	5.35
2013-14**												
Total	1262809	1281.21	35.04	32.74	134525	1471.8	37.33	37.61	77269	113.7	2.14	2.91
					2	6				1		2.91

** As the claims for the FY 2013-14 are settled partially, these details can be provided only after the entire claim amount of Rs.1540.77 Crore is settled and released to member Banks.

It would be seen from above that 35.04% account holders were women and they got 32.74% of the subsidy. Similarly 37.33% account holders were from the minority categories and they got 37.61% of the subsidy. We have also requested separately the National Minorities Finance Development Corporation to send proposals for interest subsidy as was done by the SC Finance, ST Finance & Safaikaramcharis Finance & Development Corporations. M/o Minority Affairs has also devised a scheme for interest subsidy on educational loan for pursuing professional education in Masters Level abroad almost similar to CSISS which is for professional education in India. A copy of the Scheme "Padho Pardesh" is attached.

Besides, in the interim budget, Hon'ble FM has announced Budget provision for Rs.2600 crore in which additionally 9 lakh students will be benefitted after extending the same to scope for loans availed of prior to 2009-10. The Scheme was administered by the Department of Financial Services through the Canara Bank. As per the information available Rs.1738,18,09,227/- have been disbursed benefitting 3,44,511 students.

Further, the Model Education Loan Scheme is modified from time to time by Indian Banks' Association (IBA) keeping in view the needs of the students. The last such revision was made in September 2012. Another revision is likely shortly by the Department of Financial Services/IBA based on the meeting held in the Department of Financial services on 23.9.2014. Instructions have been issued to all the Banks on 03.12.2013 that practices such as displaying names and photographs of defaulting students be stopped forthwith. In so far as the issue regarding women and minorities so as to correct the imbalances and inadequate opportunities of higher education are concerned, a meeting was held on 31st January, 2014 at Canara Bank, Bengaluru, and it was decided that keeping in mind the national objective, banks should strive to increase the number of such beneficiaries and that the Bank branches can be sensitized in this regard. It was also decided that Nodal Managers can be designated by the Member Banks for the purpose of monitoring and ensuring maximum coverage of the students belonging to women, SCs/STs/Minorities (Muslims in particular) etc., besides crediting the interest subsidy amount to these students' accounts in time. Banks are also giving – 0.50 to 1% concession on Interest on educational loan to

females. Time & again we have requested the nodal Bank i.e. Canara Bank which disburses the amount to all member Banks, and the Indian Banks Association, Mumbai, to take care of and cover all the weaker sections of the society, including women and minorities. Besides Education Secretary has also written to his counterpart in the Department of Financial Services on 4.4.2014 by bringing to his notice the concerned of the Committee & also requesting him to remove all the operational difficulties which could cause any inconvenience to the students / guardians so as to have a customer-friendly approach on the part of the banks. It has also been desired in the meeting that it may be ensured that the benefits of the Scheme with its already strained budget reach the genuinely deserving persons.

IIM, Bangalore, is undertaking the study of present scheme and has submitted the interim report. National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), New Delhi, had also undertaken the Study of the present Scheme and Planning Commission has made following observations after considering the report:-

The evaluation does not undertake any analysis of the actual socio-economic profile of the beneficiary students. Since declared income is key criteria for eligibility for interest subsidy and there is possibility of under-reporting in many cases, actual socio-economic profiling of students becomes important to understand whether actual benefits are flowing to the intended beneficiaries.

Education loans are now increasingly popular for funding professional education. It is not very clear as to what extent the introduction of the interest subsidy scheme actually contributed to the growth.

Interest subsidy scheme runs in conjunction with several scholarship schemes that support students from marginalized communities. The dynamic of the present scheme of interest subsidy on other scholarship schemes is also not understood.

NUEPA has been advised to jointly undertake the Study with IIM, Bangalore, in view of the observations of Planning Commission. Report from IIM, Bangalore, & NUEPA is awaited. In this connection Education Secretary had also held a meeting on 18.03.2014 in which representatives from IIM, Bangalore, NUEPA & Canara Bank were also present. It had also been desired in the meeting that it may be ensured that the benefits of the Scheme with its already strained budget reach the genuinely deserving persons. In the same connection, Education Secretary had taken another meeting with IIM, Bangalore on 06.08.2014.

Credit Guarantee fund for Educational Loan: Government has also approved the Credit Guarantee Fund for Educational Loan on 7.11.2013. The Fund shall provide guarantee to the extent of 75% of the defaulted amount or such amount as may be specified by the Fund.

Specified limit of the loan against which guarantee would be given is Rs.7.5 lakh or such other amount as decided by the Fund. Any education loan with interest of more than 2% over the base rate shall not be covered under the Fund. The Fund may, however, revise the ceiling of 2%. The Fund will be settled by the Management Committee of MHRD chaired by its Education Secretary. The management of the corpus of the Fund will be with the common Trust, namely, National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC), Mumbai, under the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, which is meant for education loan, skill development and factoring and other Funds with separate management committees for each of three schemes. The scheme shall come into effect from the date notified by the Government. The meeting of the Management Committee would be held shortly. Trust Deed has been signed by MHRD being the Settler of the Fund with the NCGTC on 30.09.2014.

The advantages of the credit guarantee fund are manifold - it will reduce the NPA burden of the banks, allow more education loans and liquidity contributing to increased GER, and bring about competition.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 15)

Availability of adequate and qualified faculty is of utmost necessity to provide quality education. The Committee are concerned to note that as many as around 40 per cent of the sanctioned posts are reportedly lying vacant in State Universities and 35 per cent in Central Universities. The Committee are disappointed to learn that most of 66 Academic Staff Colleges (ASCs) established for faculty development have not delivered results. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons for failure of ASCs and remedial action taken/ proposed. The Committee desire that 'National Mission on Teachers & Training' aimed to address all issues related to faculty shortage should be expeditiously finalized and implemented with specific targets under intimation to the Committee.

Reply by the Government

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNMTT)

With the fast pace of expansion of the education system in the country, both at school and higher education stages, improving quality has come to occupy centre stage in educational development. Needless to say that teachers hold the key for success of any effort in this direction. Attention, therefore, has to be focussed on the preparation of teachers and their working conditions in classrooms, schools and colleges, as also their continuous professional development, ensuring that best talent in the country are made available to shape the future generations.

Hence, with above background, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has launched the Scheme of **Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers & Teaching** on 25th December, 2014 with an outlay of Rs. 900 crores.

The Mission will address comprehensively 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. This will be one of the major thrust areas of action of the Government. The Mission would address, on the one hand, current and urgent issues such as supply of qualified teachers, attracting talent into teaching profession and raising the quality of teaching in schools and colleges. On the other, it is also envisaged that the Mission would pursue long term goals of building a strong professional cadre of teachers by setting performance standards and creating top class institutional facilities for innovative teaching and professional development of teachers.

The Mission will focus on these goals in a holistic manner dealing with the whole sector of education without fragmenting the programmes based on levels and sectors as school, higher, technical etc. This is an umbrella scheme which will create synergies among the various ongoing initiatives on Teachers and Teaching under Ministry of HRD and other autonomous institutions.

The Scheme is a central sector Scheme having All –India coverage. It will provide an integrated platform for building synergies among all the existing initiatives that are launched or under finalisation by the Department of School Education and Literacy, University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT), Central Universities (CUs), National Institutes of Technical Teachers' Training and Research (NITTTRs) etc. providing oversight to the existing activities and also carry out new activities aimed at gap filling so that a comprehensive vehicle for Teacher/Faculty related programmes

and schemes is created. Thus, the PMMMMNMTT will have role in policy, regulation and oversight of all existing and new schemes for teachers and teaching in both school and higher education sectors.

The Mission has following components:-

- (viii) Schools of Education (in Central Universities) - 30
- (ix) Centres of Excellence for Curriculum and Pedagogy -50
- (x) Inter-University Centres for Teachers' Education - 2
- (xi) National Resource Centre for Education - 1
- (xii) Centres for Academic Leadership and Education Management - 5
- (xiii) Innovations, Awards, Teaching Resource Grant, including Workshop & Seminar
- (xiv) Subject Networks for Curricular Renewal and Reforms

During the year 2014-15, an amount of Rs. one crore has been released to Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore for establishing a Centre of Excellence for Science and Mathematics Education. During the financial year 2015-16, an outlay of Rs.100 crore has been provided for the Scheme.

Comment of the Committee

(please see para No. 1.26 of Chapter I)

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 16)

The Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP), aiming to improve quality of technical education and enhance existing capacities/ improve systems management of institutions, has reportedly completed its Phase I. Phase II is now being implemented, with assistance from World Bank. As per the Outcome Budget (2013-14), TEQIP II is under implementation in respect of 158 selected institutions, out of which 119 are Government/Government Aided/Centrally funded and 39 are private institutions and in 2nd cycle selection, 29 institutions development proposals from Government funded/aided institutions have fulfilled eligibility criteria. As the Government has reportedly already decided to launch Phase III of TEQIP, the Committee would like to know the targets and

achievements in both Phase I and II of TEQIP and the reasons for shortfall, if any.

Reply by the Government

TEQIP (PHASE-I) :

The first phase of TEQIP commenced in March 2003 and ended in March 2009, covering 127 institutions in 13 States. The project covered less than 10% of the institutions. TEQIP helped the Institutions with incentives and funding. Through competitive funding, each participating institutions implemented a set of reforms that promoted academic and administrative autonomy. The bottom-up approach empowered the institutions to improve curriculum, teaching, and assessment, according to the demand for skills and newest research. Autonomy and accountability reforms took place through the creation of a Board of Governors; nearly all participating institutions took the first step towards autonomous governance and increased accountability. Further, TEQIP invested in faculty development, encouraged participation in national and international conferences, and it financed necessary purchase of modern labs and research instruments. The facilitation and monitoring of Directors, State and Central Government and the World Bank, was also critical to acknowledge and reward the efforts of faculty undertaking research.

• NOTABLE RESULTS :

Institutions and faculty participating in the first phase of the project produced notable results in terms of increased: placement of graduates, research, PG students, and academic autonomy as described below:

S.No.	Particulars	Start (2002)	End(2009)
1	UG Placement rate	41%	76%
2	UG start salary (annually)	1.7 lakh	2.8 lakh
3	Research papers published	453	4,273
4	PG graduates	7,218 MTech 342 PhDs	10,571 MTechs 587 PhDs
5	Share of programs accredited	40% est.*	93%

* est.: estimated. Accreditation includes programs applied for accreditation

TEQIP (PHASE-II) :

Building upon the satisfactory completion of the first phase of TEQIP, its second phase (TEQIP-II) is being implemented in 190 (164 Government/Government Aided/Centrally funded and 26 Private) competitively selected engineering institutions to improve quality of Technical Education through institutional and systemic reforms. The second phase boosts efforts to prepare more post-graduate students to reduce the shortage of qualified faculty, and to produce more R&D in collaboration with industry.

▪ **PROJECT OUTLAY :**

Total outlay of the Project : Rs. 2430.00 crore

▪ **PROJECT PROGRESS :**

The project is being monitored through performance indicators. The progress as on date against the targets is tabulated as below:

Performance Indicators

Sr. No	Indicator	2009-2010 Baseline	Project Target (31.10.2016)	Achievement (as on 30.11.2014)
1	Share of supported programs that are accredited or applied for	30%	55%	52%
2	Percentage Faculty with at least an M. Tech (regular and contract)	45%	88%	87.86%
3	Total number of Master and PhD students	30000	41000	44549
4	Number of publications in refereed journals (within the field of Engineering)	7032	15000	17946
5	Percentage of Faculty with or pursuing M. Tech and PhD (regular and contract)	63%	90%	89.45%
6	Percentage of externally funded research and development projects and consultancies in total revenue	6%	12%	10.49%
7	Transition rate of all students from the	---	65%	52%*

	first year to the second year of under graduate study			
8	Transition rate of students from disadvantaged backgrounds from the first year to second year of undergraduate study	45%	60%	47%*
9	Direct Beneficiaries (number)	300000	405000	414403
	of which female (percentage)	26%	30%	29%
10	Percentage of institutions with academic autonomy	30%	70%	62.11%
11	Number of faculty members benefitted from the Pedagogical training through IITs	---	2200	1373
12	Share of TEQIP Supported Engineering Institutions from lagging states as agreed by DEA and World Bank (i.e. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh)	17.7%	20%	19%
13	Number of governance self reviews received	---	190	177
14	Number of Governance Development plans received	---	180	134
15	Fully functional MIS : Number of institutions reporting at least 70% of the indicators	---	160	154
16	No. of TEQIP Assistantships			
	a) M. Tech	---	3350	8354

	b) PhD	---	2000	592
17	Number of faculty/officials attended management development training at IIMs	---	2300	994

* data entry in progress

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 18)

As a means to democratize education, the Twelfth Five Year Plan has impressed upon the need to expand access to Open Distance Learning (ODL) and also promote traditional institutions to take up more online courses to promote education for those who cannot opt for regular mode of education due to spatial, temporal or financial constraints. A target of 1 Million GER in higher education through ODL has reportedly been set for the Plan period. The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), established in the year 1985, with its 67 Regional Centres across the country, 13 State Open Universities and 36 Distance Education Institutions (DEIs), as well as over 200 Directorates of Distance Education located in conventional Universities/Deemed to be Universities offer ODL courses to students. Because of the large number of these institutions, the Distance Learning Council is admittedly unable to cope with the demand for efficient and effective regulation and the situation is exploited by the institutions having commercial motive. The Committee wonder how the situation was allowed to be exploited and no action has been taken so far to evolve an effective system of quality assurance recommended by the Menon Committee. The Committee would like to be apprised of the regulatory standards evolved on the basis of Menon Committee and an assessment of their implementation.

Reply by the Government

The MHRD vide its order dated 29th December, 2012 issued directions to the UGC to undertake the regulatory functions of Open and Distance Learning in Higher Education, thereby transferring this function to UGC which was earlier being exercised by the Distance Education Council (DEC) under IGNOU. In 'pursuance' of the directions of the MHRD, the UGC took up the responsibility of regulating open and distance learning. While on the one hand, the UGC took action on the pending applications before the erstwhile DEC and dealt with them in accordance with existing DEC Guidelines, on the other hand the UGC also constituted a Committee under Prof. Madhav Menon to frame appropriate Regulations on Open and Distance Learning (ODL). This Committee held various rounds of meeting and also had discussions with various stakeholders and submitted its Report to the UGC in October, 2013. The Report of the Committee was placed in public domain and after receiving suggestions from various stakeholders, the Distance Education Bureau (DEB) of the UGC processed the matter further and the Draft Regulations were revised and placed before the Commission in its meeting held on 10th January, 2014. On the basis of the decision in the Commission meeting, the final Draft of the Regulations was sent to the MHRD for its

concurrency. However, the Draft regulations on ODL education as per the UGC were examined in this department and accordingly comments/ views of MHRD have already been communicated.

While framing the new Regulations, the UGC has been conscious of the need for imbibing crucial quality parameters matter and to put in place an effective monitoring mechanism in order to ensure that programmes offered through ODL mode are of high quality and learners are provided with adequate academic and infrastructural support in pursuing various programmes. Some of the important quality aspects which have been considered by the UGC include the following:

- i) Mandate of setting up of a Centre of Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) in each institution/university who are offering ODL programmes.
- ii) Mandating the development of Programme Preparation Report before offering any programme in ODL mode.
- iii) Requirements with regard to infrastructure and other facilities at the learner support centre.
- iv) Laying down minimum academic and infrastructural standards in the centre/unit of distance education in the universities.
- v) Laying down the minimum support services which are required to be provided to the students.
- vi) Mandating each university/institution to place in public domain certain information relating to the ODL programme from the view point of transparency
- vii) Requiring the universities/institutions to undergo internal quality audit every year, external audited every 3 years and mandatory accreditation every 5 years.

The UGC will notify its Regulations on ODL after receiving necessary concurrence from the MHRD, which is yet to be given in the wake of non submission of the final ODL regulation by UGC.

Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development vide letter No. 6-20/2010-D.L, dated 29.12.2012 has issued directions to UGC and AICTE (who are already empowered under their respective Acts) would also act as a regulator for Higher Education (excluding technical Education) and Technical Education through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode respectively.

Based on that order, AICTE has constituted a Committee headed by Prof. Sanjay Govind Dhande former Director IIT Kanpur to frame guidelines for suggestion and recommendation on Technical Education in Distance Mode. The recommendation of the Committee were placed before EC & Council in its meeting held on 26th/27th June 2013 respectively for approval.

Based on the approval, AICTE has notified All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of Approvals for Technical Education in Blended Learning Mode) Regulations, 2013 vide notification no. F.No. 37-3/Legal/AICTE/2013 dated 27.06.2013.

It has not implemented the same for approval of programmes in blended learning mode in its institutions and has further written to Ministry of HRD for clarification of the matter.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 19)

Existing affiliation model between State Universities and colleges is reportedly suffering from several shortcomings. Firstly, it separates teaching from student assessment and research from teaching. A teacher needs to use student assessment in order to customize the teaching as per the needs of students and to provide feedback to students on their performance. But the affiliation system dictates that the assessment be done away from the college. The affiliation system also means that research is done in the university while teaching is done in the colleges, so the latest knowledge is not available to those teaching undergraduates. In the same way, teachers of colleges are denied all opportunities of self- improvement and continuous upgradation, and access to resources and research facilities. Students coming through the affiliated colleges reportedly miss a whole lifetime of opportunity for all round personality development and access to good faculty, laboratories, libraries which gets translated into lower levels of employability for affiliated college pass-outs. As the issue has already been identified as a key element of State Higher Education Reform with possible remedies through setting up of autonomous Colleges, establishing a university exclusively for affiliations, division of a university into several campuses etc., still the fact that affiliating Universities receive a significant portion of their revenue from affiliated colleges have so far hindered any significant change in the overall affiliation scenario. As RUSA proposes to reform the affiliation system, the Committee await its implementations and also specific steps and timelines to address each of the above-mentioned issues.

Reply by the Government

The Ministry shares the concerns expressed by the Committee with regard to the lack of cohesion between a university and its affiliated colleges. In order to reduce the gaps prevailing in the academic resources, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified UGC (Affiliation of Colleges by Universities) Regulations, 2009 and subsequent UGC (Affiliation of Colleges by Universities) 1st Amendment, Regulations, 2012 which lay down conditions pertaining to library, necessary laboratory equipments, multi-purpose complex, facilities for sports, canteen, health care, appropriate infrastructure and also accreditation by NAAC. Besides, all the schemes of the UGC, including the general development assistance programme cover the colleges also and substantial amount of grants as per the guidelines is disbursed to the colleges.

The UGC is also implementing the scheme of Autonomous colleges. As a matter of policy the UGC not only confers autonomous status to colleges but also provides grants. The status of autonomous college allows a college to design and develop its courses, conduct its own examinations and carry out other student and faculty oriented reforms without day to day interference of affiliating university. As of now there are 487 autonomous colleges spread over 24 states of the country.

On the pattern of its scheme of “**University with Potential for Excellence**” (**UPE**), the UGC is now implementing this scheme for colleges which have achieved better standards of teaching and research by harnessing human and physical resources in innovative ways. Recognizing the need to pay special attention to such colleges, the UGC introduced a Scheme, corresponding to the one for the Universities, during the X Plan called “**College with Potential for Excellence**” (CPE). This Scheme identifies colleges which have attained high standards in teaching, research and extension activities and hold promise of excellence. A college selected under the CPE Scheme is provided substantial funds to improve and strengthen its infrastructure that would help it in attaining further higher academic standards.

The objectives of this scheme are :

1. To define and manage the processes included in the design, development, and delivery of the chosen academic programmes;
2. To strengthen the academic and physical infrastructure for achieving excellence in teaching, research and outreach programmes that would be comparable to global standards;
3. To promote flexible and effective governance;

4. To enhance the quality of the learning and teaching process at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels with the help of a flexible credit based modular system, and the whole range of innovations currently accepted globally;
5. To promote academic programmes relevant to the socio-economic needs of the nation in general, and the region in particular;
6. To improve undergraduate education in colleges by the interfacing of the postgraduate programmes;
7. To promote networking with University departments, research centres and laboratories in the country;
8. To promote skill oriented programmes.

Further, the UGC has continued the Scheme during the XII Plan period also with an additional component of College of Excellence (CE). Only such of the colleges which are accredited with 'A' grade with more than 3.5 CGPA is eligible for consideration as College of Excellence (CE) under the Scheme. The selection for the status of College of Excellence (CE) in second/third phase is based on CGPA of NAAC accreditation and recommendation of the Expert Committee.

Nature of Financial Assistance:

- a) The grant upto Rs.150.00 lakhs under the Scheme will be provided for each college during the XII Plan period. The Expert Committee will clearly specify the quantum of grant item-wise and under recurring and non-recurring category.
- b) The colleges selected for second phase and onwards of CPE will be eligible for a maximum grant of Rs.150.00 lakhs.
- c) The colleges selected for the CE status will be eligible for a maximum grant of Rs.200.00 lakhs.
- d) The financial assistance under the Scheme is for up-gradation and updating of the departments for their further development towards excellence, and will not be utilized for construction of buildings.
- e) 50% of the grants may be spent for the development of the best performing departments as these have evidently proved their potential for pursuit of excellence. The rest 50% may be spent on the general development of the other departments and common facilities of the college.
- f) The financial assistance will be spent only on aided departments.

As of now, there are 172 colleges with potential for excellence and 14 colleges with excellence.

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) understands that in order to solve the problems of poor quality, lack of control and additional administrative burden on the universities, affiliation system reforms are an imperative.

Under RUSA, the state government's commitment to undertake reforms in the affiliation system is an a priori condition for getting the funding. Following are the paths that can be taken in reforming the affiliation system:

- Limit the number of colleges to be affiliated to any university to 100. However, this would mean establishing more affiliating universities than the present numbers.
- Large autonomous colleges can be encouraged to develop into universities.
- Create College Cluster Universities by clustering a minimum of 3-5 colleges in the area surrounding a city or in a district giving the university its own independent establishment, degree granting powers and governance.
- Already saturated universities must be prevented from further affiliating colleges.
- It is important to ensure that accreditation is not limited to universities and colleges but also made mandatory for individual departments and programmes of the university. Funding should be contingent on accreditation. This should lead to more or less uniform quality assurance.
- The States also have the option to constitute uni-disciplinary universities.
- The affiliated colleges located in rural areas are unable to attract qualified faculty to serve in them. To overcome this drawback, the faculty should be given incentives by the government to motivate them to serve in the rural areas.

As on 1st March 2015, 5 Universities through clustering of colleges and University through Upgradation of an Autonomous College has been approved under RUSA.

Observation/Recommendation (SL. No. 20)

Research and innovations are vital functions of higher education. The Committee are glad to note that India's overall publications in the world has risen from 2.8 per cent to 3.4 per cent during the ten years since 1999 with 5.77 citations per paper. In 2009, India stood eleventh in terms of the number of papers published and seventeenth in terms of citations. However, in terms of innovation, Indians file and receive only a small number of worldwide patent applications – merely 11,937 applications filed by Indians as compared to 2,41,546 by Chinese in 2009. The Committee stress that there is a need for an overall increase in the level of research spending from the current level of less than one per cent of GDP to over 2 per cent nationally, as pointed out by Planning Commission.

Reply by the Government

The University Grants Commission (UGC) 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), Centres with Potential for Excellence in a Particular Area (CPEPA) etc.

The All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has informed that in order to promote quality of technical education, it has introduced various schemes such as Research Promotion Scheme, Faculty Development Programme, Visiting Professorship, National Faculty in Engineering and Technology with Industrial Collaboration (NAFETIC), Innovation Programme Scheme and Quality Improvement Programme etc. It has also issued the Mandatory Accreditation of all Programs/Courses in Technical Education Institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education Regulations, 2014 which makes it mandatory for each technical education institution, university department and institution Deemed to be University imparting technical education to get its programs/courses accredited.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), the overall quality of existing State higher educational institutions is sought to be improved by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adoption of accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework. Certain academic, administrative and governance reforms are a precondition for receiving funding under RUSA.

Comments of the Committee

(please see para No. 1.32 of Chapter I)

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 1)

Higher education is critical for developing a modern economy. The Committee's examination of higher education in India brings out that the higher education system is mired in poor quality of curriculum, instruction, teacher quality, research, etc. India's Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education is well below global standards. There exist wide regional imbalances in access to higher education with inadequate opportunities of higher education to socially deprived communities, women, minorities and differently abled persons. The State Universities are bogged down with affiliation and governance issues and faculty shortage. Significant problems exist in the quality of education provided. There is a need for expansion, upgradation and quality improvement in State higher educational institutions. Since majority of students are in State sector (94 per cent), there is a need to incentivize States to step up investment in higher education. These and other issues are discussed in the subsequent paragraphs.

Reply by the Government

The issues mentioned in the para have been discussed in detail in the Action Taken Report in respect of relevant recommendations, especially 2,3,6,7,15 & 16.

Gross Enrolment Ratio has increased. In 2010-11, it was 18.18 percent for age group of 18-23 years and in 2012-13, it was 20.1%. Various steps have been taken to increase opportunities for deprived communities, women etc. for increased representation in institutions of higher education. RUSA has also been launched for strengthening State Universities

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 21)

In order to meet the challenges in higher education sector, several legislative reforms have been proposed by the MoHRD which, inter-alia, include Higher Education Research Bill and the Universities for Research and Innovation Bill. The Committee desire expeditious

implementation of the proposed reforms so that our higher education systems rise to global standards. The Committee also desire that foreign universities allowed to function in our country should not jeopardise the interests of Indian Universities.

Reply by the Government

The following Bills were introduced in the Parliament and have lapsed on dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha:-

- (I) The Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010
- (II) The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010.
- (III) The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority For Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010
- (IV) "The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010"
- (V) The National Academic Depository Bill, 2011
- (VI) The Universities for Research and Innovation Bill, 2012

The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 was introduced in Parliament and has been withdrawn from the Rajya Sabha on 25.11.2014.

The Ministry has launched the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) which envisages strategic funding to address the issues of quality along with access, equity in State Government supported higher educational institutions. An amount of Rs. 22,855 crores has been allotted in the 12th Plan for the purpose. RUSA supports among other components Research, Innovation and Quality Improvement; Faculty Recruitment Support; Faculty Improvement; Leadership Development of Educational Administrators; Institutional Restructuring and Reforms etc., all of which are expected to contribute towards improving quality in the higher educational sector.

Ministry of Human Resource Development has constituted a Council for Industry & Higher Education Collaboration (CIHEC) headed by the Hon'ble HRD Minister, with representatives from Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) and industry including industry associations such as Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) and Progress Harmony and Development Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PHDCCI); private industry and Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs). CIHEC is envisioned to serve as a professional stakeholder group and

identify issues and opportunities and facilitate development of strategies and innovative instruments of collaboration between Industry and Academia.

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 11)

The total growth rate of institutions in terms of percentage has shown a positive trend during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Now each State has at least one Central University, except Goa, where the State Government reportedly did not want one. The Committee feel that strict vigilance is required over 312 unapproved private institutions which fleece gullible students. It appears that there are no mechanism at present to deal with such institutions. The Committee desire that this aspect should be looked into, if necessary, with the involvement of State Governments to ensure that the interests of students admitted in such institutions are not adversely affected. There should be a system of disposal of complaints regarding unapproved institutions within a time frame and imposition of heavy penalty on the management of unapproved institutions.

Reply by the Government

UGC has identified 21 fake universities across the country and has been publicizing the list time and again in public interest through electronic and print media. To maintain standards in state private universities, UGC has brought out UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 and all private universities in the country are governed by the provisions contained in these Regulations. Of late, UGC has amended these regulations which has been sent to the Government of India for concurrence.

These Private Universities are also inspected by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees constituted by the UGC which includes representatives from the concerned Statutory Council(s). These Expert Committees visit the Private Universities to assess the fulfilment of minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down by the UGC and other concerned Statutory Bodies. The reports of the Expert Committees are placed before the Commission for consideration and the Private Universities are asked to submit compliance report in respect of the observations/suggestions of the Expert Committees.

The compliance reports are examined by the UGC and again placed before the Commission for consideration.

Out of the 185 State Private Universities, the UGC Expert Committees have already visited 100 Private Universities. The reports of UGC visiting committees are also uploaded on the UGC website for the information of student/parents and general public at large.

AICTE maintains a list of unapproved institutions which is displayed on the AICTE website for information and benefit of the stake holders. There has been a well laid down procedure to deal with the complaints and other issues related to unapproved institutions within the provision of AICTE Act. When any complaint or information regarding any unapproved institutions is received from any source then letters are issued to the institutions to close down the unapproved programmes and to apply for seeking the AICTE approval. The copy of the letters are also marked to the respective State Governments for taking necessary action against such institutions and monitoring the provisions of ACITE Act requiring prior approval of AICTE to start technical programme. If any clarification is received in response to AICTE letter then the same is placed before the duly constituted Hearing Committee and an opportunity is given to the institutions to present their case. After hearing, if committee is satisfied with the clarification furnished based on committee recommendations the affidavit in the prescribed format is sought and names are removed from the list of unapproved institutions.

However, it may be noted that AICTE act does not provide any judicial framework to take any punitive or legal action against such institutions.

Comments of the Committee

(Please see para No. 1.17 of Chapter I)

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 13)

Several scholarship schemes are offered to students for promotion of higher education in the country. However, the Committee are disappointed to note that the fund utilization for scholarships during the last 3 years has been poor particularly under the non-Plan budget. It is observed that during the year 2010-11 the utilization was only 13 per cent, whereas during 2011-12 and 2012-13, the percentage of utilization was 31 per cent and 14 per cent (upto December, 2012) respectively. The slots for External Scholarships provided by different

countries have not been fully utilized. The Committee also note pendencies in completion of selection process for schemes like Post Doctoral Fellowship for SC/ST Candidates and Radhakrishnan Post Doctoral Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences. The Committee, therefore, desire that reasons for slackness in granting scholarships must be identified and remedial action taken. The Committee also find that the present level of scholarships offered to female students is inadequate and needs to be augmented. Therefore, they recommend that the Government should consider reserving adequate percentage of all scholarships and fellowships offered in higher education for women.

Reply by the Government

UGC is providing scholarship to students under the following schemes:

4) PG Scholarship for professional Courses for SC/ST candidates:

The reasons for under utilization of the funds for the scholarship are as under:

- c) During i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13 less no. of applications were being received under the scheme in respect of the degrees i.e. M.E., M.Tech., M.Pharma., M.B.A. Some of the applicants under the above said streams were not selected due to non fulfilment of the criteria laid down in the UGC guidelines.
- d) The selection for award of scholarship for 2013-14 under the scheme of PG Scholarship for professional Courses for SC/ST candidates has already been executed and the result has been uploaded on the UGC website. The beneficiaries are being paid scholarship through DBT by Canara Bank.

5) PG Indira Gandhi scholarship for Single Girl Child under the said scheme the cap is open so the selection of the candidates is made against the number of applications complete in all respect received in a respective year.

6) PG Merit scholarship for University Rank Holders. The reasons for under utilization of the scholarship are as under:

- b) PG Scholarship under this scheme is awarded to only 1st and 2nd rank holders who are pursuing non-professional PG courses in Indian Universities/Colleges/Institutes. The rank of the applicant is considered out of the no. of students appearing in the examination i.e.100 in state and central universities each and 25 in Deemed

universities and the colleges affiliated to them. However the no. of applications received each year against the number of slots are very less in number. Some students are also not selected although scoring 1st or 2nd Rank due to the reason that no. of candidates appeared for examination are lesser than the numbers fixed for universities.

Some of the students are unable to apply in the respective year as they are not being provided university rank certificate timely by the respective universities. The selection of award of fellowship during last 3yrs i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13 under the scheme of Post Doctoral Fellowship for SC/ST candidates has already been processed and been completed. The awarded candidates are availing benefit under the said scheme through DBT by Canara Bank. The execution of the award of fellowship for the year 2013-14 under the above said scheme is under process and the selection will be completed very shortly.

(7) Radha krishnan Post Doctoral fellowship for Humanities and Social sciences. This scheme was introduced in IX plan but could not be implemented due to procedural delays. The guidelines of the scheme have now been modified and approved by the Commission in its 501st meeting held on 13th June,2014. To implement it during 2014-15, the process of inviting applications online is underway.

(8) **National Scholarship** Central Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students provides financial assistance to meritorious students from poor families to meet a part of their day to-day expenses while pursuing higher studies. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of the results of senior secondary examination. 82000 fresh scholarships per annum (41000 for boys and 41 000 for girls) are provided. Students who are above 80th percentile of successful candidates in the relevant stream for a particular Board of Examination, in class XII of 10+2 pattern or equivalent and having family income of less than Rs.6.lakhs per annum, pursuing regular courses (not correspondence or distance mode) from recognised educational institutions and not availing of any other scholarship scheme, would be eligible for consideration under this Scheme. The rate of scholarship are to be Rs.1000/- at Graduation level for the first three years of College and University courses and Rs. 2000/- per month at Post-Graduation level. . Students pursuing professional courses would get Rs.2000/- per month in the 4th and 5th year. The scholarships would be paid for 10 months in an academic year. This is subject to annual renewal on the basis of stringent criteria. Under the Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students, 50% of the total scholarship of 82000 are already earmarked to girl students which is 41000.

The reasons for low utilization of the scholarship are as follows: (i) Low amount of scholarship. (ii) Only day to day expenses are covered and the beneficiaries of this Scheme are debarred from availing the benefits of the other scholarship schemes. (iii)

Other lucrative scholarship schemes are already available for SC,ST, OBC, Minorities etc., which cover meeting of major expenses of their course fee and living expenses.

The NIT also introduced a merit scheme in 2009-10 for the students in top 2000 ranks in JEE with usual reservation for SC/ST/OBC candidates. The scheme is funded from the funds generated by CBSE from conduct of JEE. Under the Scheme, tuition fee (presently 70000/-) is being paid as scholarship.

- (9) **EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIP** External Scholarship Division administers scholarship offered by donor Countries at Masters & Phd. level. At present the countries offering Scholarships are - China, Korea, Japan, Israel, Italy, Sri Lanka, Commonwealth UK and Commonwealth New Zealand.

External Scholarship Division facilitates nomination of Indian students for scholarship offered by donor countries through a transparent selection procedure as per the slots provided by the donor countries.

The donor countries select the candidates from the nominated lists of students as per the norms. The External scholarship division has no role in the final selection of the candidate. Besides, at times the students who have been finally selected do not avail external scholarship due to personal reasons.

Comments of the Committee

(please see para No. 1.23 of Chapter I)

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 17)

The Committee observe that six new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) at Hyderabad, Patna, Jodhpur, Bhubaneswar, Ropar and Gandhinagar started functioning from the year 2008-09 and two new IITs at Indore and Mandi started functioning from 2009-10. Regrettably, even after five years, none of the IITs have started functioning from their permanent campuses. Permanent campus for IITs in Hyderabad, Mandi and Patna have commenced construction in November, 2012. IIT, Jodhpur has not yet finalized the Architects and in IIT, Ropar, even the Master Plan for the campus is not ready yet. Similarly, seven IIMs, established during the Eleventh Five Year Plan are still operating from their temporary campuses. The Committee feel that a timeline need to be set for all the new IITs and IIMs to fast track the pace of construction of permanent campuses for the benefit of students who have been deprived of the facilities associated with permanent campuses.

Reply by the Government

The dates on which the respective State Governments had transferred land for setting up of the 8 new IITs is as appended in the Table below:

S.NO.	Name of the IIT	Date of transfer of land
9.	IIT-Hyderabad	06.10.2008
10.	IIT-Indore	27.06.2012
11.	IIT-Ropar	12.06.2009
12.	IIT-Mandi	18.01.2011
13.	IIT-Bhubaneswar	10.02.2009 & 15.09.2010
14.	IIT-Gandhinagar	30.07.2012
15.	IIT-Jodhpur	07.03.2011
16.	IIT-Patna	19.04.2011

As could be seen from the Table above, the delay in constructions is primarily due to delayed transfer of land, free from all cumbrances, by the concerned State Governments. Students of IITs, Hyderabad, Patna and Gandhinagar will be shifting to their permanent campuses by July, 2015. IIT Mandi has partly shifted to its permanent campus whereas the IIT Jodhpur, IIT Ropar and IIT Indore are in the process of awarding the contracts.

Revised time line targeted for constitution of permanent campus is July 2016-17 except for IIM Ranchi.

Comments of the Committee

(please see para No. 1.29 of Chapter I)

CHAPTER V

**RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF
THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED**

**NEW DELHI;
17 DECEMBER, 2015
Agrahayana 26, 1937 (saka)**

**DR. MURI MANOHAR JOSHI
Chairperson,
Committee on Estimates.**

APPENDIX I

MINUTES OF NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2015-16)

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 8th December, 2015 from 1525 hrs. to 1625 hrs. in Room No. '62', Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi – Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Kirti Azad
3. Shri Anil Shirole
4. Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey
5. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary
6. Col. Sonaram Choudhary
7. Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo
8. Shri Sanjay Dhotre
9. Shri P.C.Gaddigoudar
10. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey
11. Shri K. N. Ramachandran
12. Md. Salim
13. Shri Arvind Sawant
14. Shri Ganesh Singh
15. Shri Rajesh Verma

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Vipin Kumar - Director
2. Shri Srinivasulu Gunda - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration of the following Reports:-

(i) Draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 25th Report of the Committee on Estimates (2013-14) (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Higher Education in India' pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education'.

(ii) *****

4. The Committee after consideration adopted the above Reports without any modifications. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalise them and present the same to Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned with vote of thanks to the Chair.

APPENDIX II

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

(i)	Total number of recommendations/observations	21
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government	16
	(Sl Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 20)	
	Percentage of total recommendations	76.19%
(iii)	Recommendation/Observation which the Committee do no desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply	02
	(Sl. Nos. 1 and 21)	
	Percentage of total recommendations	9.53%

(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee	03
	(Sl. Nos. 11, 13 and 17)	14.28
	Percentage of total recommendations	
(v)	Recommendation/Observation in respect of which final replies of the Government is still awaited	Nil
	Percentage of total recommendations	0%