GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2323
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2017**

Innovation Fund

2323.   SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes an innovation fund for secondary education and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the number of States which have the most number of educationally backward blocks in the country; and
(c) the number of educationally backward blocks benefited from the said funds so far?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a)   In the Budget for the year 2017-18, an Innovation Fund for Secondary Education has been created to encourage local innovation for ensuring universal access, gender parity and quality improvement, including ICT enabled learning transformation. The focus will be on 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks.

(b)   The State wise detail of the Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) is at **Annexure- I**.

(c)   Under the Innovation fund for Secondary Education, the States/UTs would be required to submit proposals after working out the innovative projects aiming to enhance access, bring gender parity, improvement in quality or enhance learning outcomes of the students in the Educationally Backward Blocks. So far, no grant has been released to the States/UTs under the Innovation Fund.

******

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2323 REGARDING "INNOVATION FUND" FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2017 ASKED BY SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR INDICATING STATE WISE DETAILS OF EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD BLOCKS (EBBS).

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of EBBs
1	Andhra Pradesh (Unified with Telangana State)	737
2	Arunachal Pradesh	38
3	Assam	81
4	Bihar	530
5	Chhattisgarh	75
6	D & N Haveli	1
7	Gujarat	85
8	Haryana	37
9	Himachal Pradesh	5
10	Jammu & Kashmir	97
11	Jharkhand	203
12	Karnataka	74
13	Kerala	1
14	Madhya Pradesh	203
15	Maharashtra	43
16	Manipur	5
17	Meghalaya	9
18	Mizoram	1
19	Nagaland	11
20	Odisha	172
21	Punjab	21
22	Rajasthan	186
23	Tamilnadu	44
24	Tripura	9
25	Uttar Pradesh	702
26	Uttarakhand	23
27	West Bengal	86
Total		**3479**