

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4878  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018

**Degree Courses**

4878. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:  
KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is making efforts to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in next five years and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that no deserving student is denied opportunity to have Higher Education for lack of means?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has been constantly striving to develop a system of higher education of quality appropriate to the national needs and aspirations and in tune with global trends. To increase access to Higher Education, new Institutions of National Importance viz. Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, National Institutes of Technology, universities and Colleges are established, intake capacity of existing institutions is enhanced, quality distance education is promoted and quality private education institutions are allowed to operate for creating opportunities for students belonging to disadvantaged section of the society.

Further, Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), provides strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions. The objective is to achieve the target of Gross Enrolment Ratio of 30% by the year 2019-20 with equity and inclusion.

The Department of Higher Education has a scheme called Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme on education loan for students belonging to Economically Weaker Sections. The objective of the Scheme is to encourage poor students aspiring to pursue Higher Education especially in Technical and Professional education. Government of India bears full interest subsidy during the Moratorium period.

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