1826. SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is cognizant of the decrease in the admission of students at Undergraduate and Post-graduate level across Jammu and Kashmir for the academic session of 2019-20 to 2020-21;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Ministry to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) among the aspirants across Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) & (b) As per the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-21, the number of students in Jammu and Kashmir enrolled in the Regular Mode at Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) levels, increased to 2,30,966 and 20,278 in 2020-21, from 2,30,571 and 19,159 in 2019-20 respectively. Students of one State/UT can also pursue higher education in another State/UT.

(c) & (d) Government has taken various measures to increase the enrolment and Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education in Jammu and Kashmir, which include:

- Setting up of Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) in the year 2016,
- Giving scholarships for pursuing higher education to poor and meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir under Pradhan Mantri Uchchchtar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Scholarships for College and University Students,
- Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to encourage the youth to take advantage of the educational institutions outside these UTs,
- Issued new UGC regulation for Open and Distance Learning that allows entry of reputed institutions to offer education on the distance mode, using ICT mode through-SWAYAM portal to reach out to people,
- Teaching in local/Indian languages, Direct to Home (DTH) courses,
- Setting up of New Model Degree Colleges at Kishtwar, Baramulla and Kupwara and Professional College at Poonch,
- Construction of Girls Hostels at Government Degree College at Mendhar and Government Degree College Kangan,
- Strengthening offsite campuses of both University of Jammu and University of Kashmir to attract more enrollments from the far-flung areas.

It may also be noted that GER in Jammu and Kashmir has improved to 25.0 in 2020-21 from 22.3 in 2016-17.