GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 186 ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

Exam Scams

186. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the competitive exam scams across the country since 2014, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has observed that such competitive exam scams put extreme mental pressure on the aspirants and their families due to these competitive exams, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to go for online conduct of competitive entrance/recruitment examinations from the present pen and paper mode, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure transparency in conducting of competitive entrance/recruitment examinations in the country; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated for higher education institutions of the state of Kerala particularly for Kozhikode district?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

- (a) Competitive Examinations are conducted for Admission to Educational Institutions as well as for Recruitment. These examinations are conducted by different bodies. Data regarding Examination specific incidents is not centrally maintained in the Ministry.
- (b) to (d) As a deterrence to unfair means in public examinations, the Central Government has enacted the Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act 2024. This Act has come into force w.e.f. 21st June, 2024 and Rules have also been notified thereunder on 23rd June, 2024. Examinations are conducted in Computer Based Mode (C.B.T.) or Pen and Paper mode from time to time depending on requirements and availability of infrastructure commensurating the number of candidates. Many examinations including JEE(Main) for admission to NITs, IIITs, CFTIs, etc.; JEE(Advanced) for admission for IITs; CAT for admission to IIMs, CUET(PG) for admission to post graduate courses in all Central Universities as well as in other participating Universities etc. are already being conducted in C.B.T. mode. As part of transparent dealing with candidates, the scheme of examination, norms and guidelines, procedure/processes of competitive examinations conducted by Government through its various bodies are announced through advertisement, Information Bulletin, Public Notices etc.

The Ministry of Education has constituted a High-Level Committee of Experts on 22.6.24 to suggest effective measures for transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations by the National Testing Agency. The Committee shall make recommendations on Reforms in mechanism of examination process, Improvement in Data Security protocols and Structure and functioning of National Testing Agency and shall submit its Report in two months.

(e) IIIT under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode namely IIIT Kottayam was established in the year 2015 in the State of Kerala. In the PPP Scheme, the capital cost for establishment of IIIT Kottayam is Rs. 128.00 crore which is to be contributed in the ratio of 50:35:15 by the Central Government, the State Government, and the industry respectively. In addition, Rs. 10.00 crore for recurring expenditure is provided by the Central Government. Total share amount of GoI i.e. Rs. 74.00 crore (Rs.10.00 cr.-Recurring expenditure and Rs. 64.00 cr. non-recurring expenditure) has already been released to IIIT(PPP) Kottayam up-to year 2020-21.

Out of 31 NITs functioning in the Country, one NIT is functioning at Calicut in the Kozhikode district of Kerala State. The funds released to NIT, Calicut during 2023-24 are to the tune of 261.19 crores. Besides, Central University of Kerala was established at Kasaragod in 2009 by an Act of Parliament. The total funds released to Central University of Kerala during 2023-24 are Rs. 96.42 Crore (Rs. 81.75 crore through UGC +14.67 crore as HEFA fund). In addition, the funds released to IISER, Thiruvananthapuram and IIT Palakkad during 2023-24 are Rs. 160.37 crores and Rs. 278.86 crores respectively.
