

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**ENHANCING ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN UNSERVED OR
UNDERSERVED AREAS**

New Delhi, December 17th, 2014

One of the areas of focus of Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) is enhancing access to higher education in unserved or underserved areas by setting up new institutions, and improving infrastructure and facilities in existing institutions. However, specific locations of these institutions are identified by the State Government based on their need assessment and requirements.

As on 1st December 2014, 50 Model Degree Colleges (07 in Andhra Pradesh, 08 in Odisha, 26 in Uttar Pradesh, 02 in Himachal Pradesh, 02 in Punjab, 01 in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, 03 in Tripura and 01 in Nagaland); 08 new Professional Colleges (01 in Himachal Pradesh, 02 in Punjab, 02 in Jammu & Kashmir, 02 in Gujarat and 01 in Manipur); and 04 new universities through clustering of eligible colleges (2 in Jammu & Kashmir, 01 in Himachal Pradesh and 01 in Manipur) have been approved under the Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). Further details are available on the HRD Ministry's website at <http://mhrd.gov.in/project-approval-board>.

This information was given by the Union Human Resource Development Minister, Smt. Smriti Irani in a written reply to the Lok Sabha question.

DS/RK/RUSA