GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3403 ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012 SHORTAGE OF TRAINED TEACHERS

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

- (a) whether there is a shortage of trained teachers in the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of untrained teachers engaged in teaching at present, State-wise;
- (d) whether there are vacant posts of teachers in primary and secondary schools, universities and higher technical institutes including vocational educational institutes in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has prepared any scheme for filling up of these vacant posts and providing training to teachers in the country if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken to improve the standard of education in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d) Availability of professionally qualified teachers is an important element of quality. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for additional teachers to enable States to meet the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) norms laid down in the RTE Act. Since inception of SSA in 2001-02, 19.14 lakh posts of teachers have been sanctioned upto 2011-12 against which 12.26 lakh teachers have been recruited till 31.12.2011 by the State Governments/Union Territories. State- wise details of numbers of teachers sanctioned and recruitment made are given at Annexure-I. State wise details of untrained teachers engaged in teaching under SSA, as per DISE 2010-11 data are given at Annexure-II.

At the secondary education level, against an estimate of 1.79 lakh additional teachers, 52352 additional teachers have been sanctioned under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. Vacancies also keep arising in universities and higher technical institutes. Shortage of teaching staff has arisen on account of massive expansion in higher education in the recent past.

- (e) The State Governments have taken steps for filling up the vacant posts. The State Governments are amending the recruitment rules to align with the teacher qualification norms laid down by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), vide its Notification dated 23rd August, 2010, in pursuance of section 23 of the RTE Act. Further, the Teacher Eligibility Tests (TET) are being conducted. The Central TET has been conducted twice by the CBSE and several States have conducted the State level TET. Steps have also been taken to improve the situation in the institutes of higher and technical education.
- (f) The RTE Act, places obligation on the appropriate government and local authority to ensure good quality elementary education conforming to the norms and standards specified in the Schedule to the Act. The RTE Act also provides that the curriculum and evaluation procedure shall be in accordance with the values enshrined in the Constitution of India, and shall take into account all round development of the child, build on the Child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, provide for learning through activities, discovery and exploration, and shall make the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety. Under revised norms of SSA, several steps have been taken to improve the quality of elementary education, including recruitment of additional teachers, periodic in- service training of teachers, free distribution of text books, regular academic support to primary and upper primary schools through Block resource Centers and Cluster Resource Centre and support for learning enhancement programs for Mathematics and Language.