GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1093
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
ABOLITION OF SINGLE TEACHER SCHOOLS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of schools are being run on single teacher concept in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the adverse impact on employment amongst qualified teachers across the country as a result of the single teacher concept;
- (d) whether the Union Government has urged the State Government to take concrete steps to abolish single teacher schools;
- (e) if so, the response of the States thereto; and
- (f) the details of the assistance given or proposed to be given by the Union Government to each State to address the situation?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) Government of India, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), provides one teacher for every 40 children in a primary and upper primary school, and one teacher for every class in the upper primary school. The teachers are provided on the basis of requirement of teachers projected by the States/Union territories in their Annual Work Plan & Budget. During 2009-10, Government of India has approved an outlay of Rs.27235.88 crore towards implementation of SSA in all States/UTs.

As per DISE (District Information System for Education) 2007- 08 data collected by National University of Educational Planning and Administration, 1.17 lakh Government elementary schools in the country are single teacher schools. 12.82 lakh teachers have been provided to States/UTs under SSA so far. States/UTs have been advised to ensure an optimum number of teachers in each elementary school, both through fresh appointments as well through a rational redeployment, as required. The percentage of single teacher government elementary schools has declined from 14.2% in 2005-06 to 11.7% in 2007-08.