

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1987

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012

FACILITY OF QUALITY EDUCATION

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

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

(a) whether as per an international convention, it has been agreed to provide quality education to all deprived cities of Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan and India by the year 2015;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has achieved the target;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor along with the total percentage of persons likely to be provided the facility of quality education in India by March, 2013; and

(e) the time by which the said target is likely to be achieved?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b): Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan, the nine most populous countries of the developing world, constitute the E-9 initiative for Education For All (EFA). In the year 2000 they participated in the World Education Forum at Dakar, and along with other countries pledged to achieve the six EFA goals including 'improving all aspects of the quality of education and ensuring excellence so that recognized and measurable learning outcomes are achieved by all, especially in literacy, numeracy and essential life skills. During the Biennium 2012-14 the E-9 countries are focusing on the theme 'Inclusive Relevant Quality Education for All'. This does not, however, amount to an "international convention" in the legal sense of the term.

(c) to (e): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which became operational with effect from 1st April, 2010, provides that every child in the 6 to 14 age-group shall have a right to free and compulsory elementary education of satisfactory and equitable quality. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 and currently it is being implemented in accordance with the norms and standards of the RTE Act. SSA provides for several interventions to improve the quality of elementary education, including inter-alia opening new schools, recruiting additional teachers, periodic in-service teacher training, provision of textbooks and uniforms, regular academic support for learning enhancement to teachers. The RTE Act has prescribed Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) to be maintained for each school. National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down teacher qualifications under Section 23 of the RTE Act and has also notified the Guidelines for Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). The Act provides timeframes for implementation of norms and standards regarding school infrastructure and teachers in a school and the training of untrained teachers etc.