

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3048
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States are lagging behind in improving their school infrastructure and quality of education despite allocating huge funds every year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor for the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan period; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to correct the situation?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) As per the District Information System for Education (DISE) 2011-12 (provisional), some States do reflect a gap in school infrastructure as 94.3% government elementary schools have drinking water, 87.9% schools have toilets and 61.7% schools have ramps. 7 States / UTs have Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) above the National average of 1:31 at primary level and 8 States / UTs are above the national level of 1:29 at upper primary stage. State-wise details are at Annexure.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) seeks to augment school infrastructure with the objective of meeting the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 requirements, for which so far 3.04 lakh school buildings, 17.92 lakh additional classrooms, 8.53 lakh toilets, 2.29 lakh drinking water facilities and 5.01 lakh ramps have been sanctioned across the States/Union Territories.

Under the SSA, efforts to improve quality in schools have been undertaken through improved textbooks based on the National Curriculum Framework 2005, the distribution of free textbooks, annual in-service training of all teachers, setting-up of academic supervision and support structures at block and cluster level and the introduction of comprehensive and continuous evaluation. For improving the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR), more than 19 lakh posts of teachers have been sanctioned. Furthermore, under the RTE Act, 2009, the National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) has notified the minimum qualifications and also made the holding of the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) mandatory to improve the quality of teachers.