

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4187
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012
REPORT ON SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Planning Commission and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have suggested in their report to raise the number of teachers in higher education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any action in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(Dr. Shashi Tharoor)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has informed us that it, along with the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), released a report titled 'Annual Status of Higher Education of States and UTs in India, 2012' (ASHE 2012) in which it was suggested to double the number of quality teachers in Higher Education from 8 lakhs currently to 16 lakhs during the XIth Five Year Plan.

(c) & (d) : The approach paper to the XIth Five Year Plan approved by the National Development Council also envisages the launching of initiatives to improve the quality and availability of teachers in higher education via mission mode.

The Government is already taking steps to mitigate the faculty shortage. The Task Force on Faculty Shortage, constituted by the Central Government, submitted its report on 9th August, 2011. The Task Force recommended administrative, academic and financial reforms to mitigate the faculty shortage. Subsequently, the Government has constituted an Implementation Monitoring Committee in January, 2012 to implement and monitor the recommendations of the Task Force. The Committee has held 4 meetings so far. Apart from this, in order to meet the situation arising out of the shortage of teachers in universities and other teaching institutions, the age of superannuation for teachers in Central Educational Institutions has been enhanced to sixty-five years; the UGC has advised all Central Universities to fill up the vacant teaching posts at the earliest; and teachers re-employment on contract appointment beyond the age of sixty-five years upto the age of seventy years is also permitted, subject to availability of vacant positions and fitness. Besides, the UGC has also sanctioned 706 adjunct faculty positions for the entire university system in the country.