GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:547 ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013 QUALITY EDUCATION

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that private schools/institutions have become money minting institutions;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether it is a crucial fact that there was a shortage of over one million qualified teachers, especially in primary schools;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof;
- (e) whether children from villages particularly from backward and remote villages are deprived from quality education;
- (f) if so, whether there is an urgent need to start public-private partnership model for world class schools in villages, particularly in remote villages; and
- (g) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) The private schools are either affiliated to the State Boards of Education or the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) which are the regulating authority for these schools.

The Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE) has endorsed a draft "Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Schools Bill" which inter alia provides for the prevention of the practice of schools demanding and charging capitation fees or any donation by way of consideration either in cash or kind or otherwise for admission to any seat or seats in any class of study.

- (c) and (d) Up to 2012-13, a total of 19.82 lakh posts of teachers have been sanctioned under the SSA for elementary education, against which 12.86 lakh teachers have been recruited till 31.12.2012 by the State Governments/UTs.Under the RMSA, around 95,000 teachers' posts have been approved for secondary schools in all States and UTs. States have been advised to fill up vacancies in the State sector teacher posts, and undertake re-deployment of teachers to address imbalances in teacher deployment. In addition, the NCTE has approved proposals for the training of 5.58 lakh untrained teachers through the Distance Education mode.
- (e) The Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) supports the States and Union Territories to expand access as well as to improve quality and equity in schools. Under the SSA, the opening of 263428 new schools (165297-Primary and 98130- Upper Primary schools), has been approved. Under the RMSA, 9636 new secondary schools have been approved and 34311 existing secondary schools have been strengthened. The central sector scheme of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti Schools (Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas) are especially targeted to provide pace-setting, quality education to children from rural areas.
- (f) and (g) A centrally sponsored Scheme to set up 6,000 Model Schools at the block level as a benchmark of excellence in the Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) template is being implemented since November 2008. Out of these, 3,500 schools are to be set up in educationally backward blocks (EBBs) through State/UT Governments. The location of the schools in EBBs are decided by the concerned State/UT Governments. While deciding the location, State/UT Governments are advised to consult the Block Panchayats. The remaining 2,500 schools are to be set up under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in blocks which are not educationally backward.