

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3823
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION
Das Shri Ram Sundar

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

- (a) whether the Government had appointed a high powered Committee to look into the functioning of regional centres of National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE);
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the findings of the Committee;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take over NCTE in the light of report submitted by the Committee;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government/NCTE to ensure quality education in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court had in May, 2011 appointed a High Powered Commission under the Chairpersonship of Justice JS Verma, former Chief Justice of India, to examine various aspects relating to the teacher education system, including the role and functions of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), and recommend measures for improvement. The Commission submitted its Report to Hon'ble Supreme Court on 29.08.2012 and made recommendations in four main categories as under:-

(i) Quality of Pre-service Teacher Education

(ii) Quality of In-service Teacher Education

(iii) Teacher Performance and Teacher Audit

(iv) Strengthening the Regulatory functions of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) The said Commission inspected 300 institutions, out of which 44 institutions qualified, 249 institutions did not qualify for recognition for conducting the D.Ed. Programme and 7 institutions had decided to apply for the closure of the said programme.

(c) & (d) The Central Government superseded the Council of the NCTE in July, 2011 in accordance with the provisions of section 30 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993, and appointed a Committee to exercise the powers and functions of the Council.

(e) The Government and the NCTE have taken several steps for improving the quality of teacher preparation and teacher education. These include laying down teacher qualifications under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009; specifying passing the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) as an essential qualification for being appointed as a teacher in classes I-VIII; the development of the National Curriculum Framework of Teacher Education, NCFTE (2009); the preparation of model syllabi for teacher education courses; the revision of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Teacher Education for the XII Plan, which entails the strengthening and the expansion of existing institutional structures such as the District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), the Colleges of Teacher Education (CTEs) and the Institutes of Advanced Studies in Education (IASEs), the strengthening of the State Councils for Educational Research and Training (SCERTs), and the establishment of Block Institutes of Teacher Education (BITEs) in SC/ST/Minority concentration districts, etc.

The MHRD has constituted Joint Review Missions consisting of eminent teacher education experts to review progress and to consider issues related to programme planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, with respect to each of the programmatic interventions under the Scheme, in respect of each level of institution for 10 states of the country.