

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1499
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013
TEACHER STUDENT RATIO
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the student teacher ratio in many States is not 30 students per teacher despite the fact that it is mandated by law;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether quality education is not being provided due to mismatch in the teacher student ratio due to which in many States, students upto class 8 are dropping out soon from these schools;
- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the schemes likely to be formulated for providing quality education to bring the drop out rate upto the level of zero?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the District Information System for Education (DISE), 2011-12, the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) in Government schools at the national level for elementary schools is 30:1, and the State-wise details are at Annexure-I. In order to increase teacher availability, since inception of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a total of 19.82 lakh teacher's posts have been sanctioned against which 14 lakh have been recruited till March, 2013. The recruitment process for the remaining posts is at various stages in different States, which will lead to a further favourable PTR.

(c) & (d): In a National Sample Survey to Assess Dropout Rates at the Elementary Level, commissioned by MHRD in 21 States in 2010-11, the reasons for dropping out of children that emerged were the economic condition of the parents, the migration of the family, to help the family in domestic work, sibling care etc.

The PTR has improved in the country after the coming into force of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The National Achievement Survey (NAS), which is carried out by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in 3 year cycles for classes III, V and VIII, also (shows in the recently conducted 3rd round for class V) moderate improvements in learning levels. The drop-out rate at elementary level as per the School Education Statistics (SES), 2010-11, state-wise is at Annexure-II.

(e) In order to provide quality education and to reduce the drop-out rate under the SSA, the States are supported for free text books, teacher training, academic support through Block Resource Centres/ Cluster Resource Centres, free uniforms and mid-day-meal and special training for mainstreaming of out of school children. Residential facilities are also being provided in sparsely populated areas and for urban deprived children to further reduce the drop-out rate.