

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:985
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013
EDUCATION IN MOTHER TONGUE
Pakkirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has felt a need to impart primary education in mother tongue in all schools of the respective States in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring out a national policy to make State language compulsory medium of instruction at primary education in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005 acknowledges the importance of a child's mother tongue as a medium of instruction, and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 stipulates that the academic authority, while laying down the curriculum and evaluation procedure shall take into consideration, inter alia, that the medium of instruction is, as far as practicable, in the child's mother tongue. States have been advised to undertake curriculum renewal process in accordance with the spirit and principles of NCF-2005 and the RTE Act, 2009 and several States have initiated the curriculum renewal process. The Government has also issued an Advisory to States that efforts to incorporate well known methods of bridging the gap between the child's 'home' language with the 'standard' classroom language need to be given utmost attention.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not arise.