

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:533

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014

SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS

Galla Shri Jayadev;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether according to a recent report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) India would need around 3.6 lakh primary teachers;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether this problem is exacerbated by a steadily growing school age population and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that quality primary education will remain a distant dream for millions of children and if so, whether there is a need to formulate a policy on primary education to achieve quality education; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) to (d) : The recent United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) report mentions that India would need around 3.6 lakh primary teachers. The Government of India reviews teacher vacancy position in States/Union Territories on a regular basis, as well as assists States through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme to appoint new teachers, as per the SSA norms.

(e) : The steps taken by the government to improve learning outcome include, inter alia, sanctioning of additional teachers to improve the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), free distribution of textbooks, distribution of two sets of uniforms to all girls and BPL boys @ Rs. 400/- per child per annum, regular annual in-service training to teachers, training of untrained teachers and regular academic support to teachers through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres. The Central government has also supported States/UTs on early grade reading, writing & comprehension, and early mathematics programmes, while at upper primary level support is provided for mathematics and science teaching learning. States have also been assisted to conduct comprehensive external student assessment surveys to assess gaps in student learning, in order to undertake corrective action.