

- (b) if so, the details of steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Several steps have been taken to improve the standard of elementary education in the country. These include, improvement of infrastructural facilities and sanction of new teacher posts in the Government schools, free textbooks to all the children in Government and Government aided schools, provision for in — service training upto 20 days every year to the teachers of the Government and aided schools, regular academic support to the teachers through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres, school grant to all the Government and aided schools and teacher grant for relevant teaching aids to the teachers of these schools, libraries in the Government schools and provision for financial support for context specific quality enhancement interventions. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 further, provides for laying down of minimum norms and standards for recognition of private schools and the development of curricula and evaluation procedure by academic authorities. The National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down minimum eligibility qualifications for teacher recruitment in elementary schools including passing a Teacher Eligibility Test (TET).

The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) scheme for improving secondary education provides for *inter-alia* school infrastructure, additional class rooms, school laboratories, school libraries, and appointment of additional teachers for better pupil teacher ratio, subject teaching of science, Maths and English subjects, in-service training of teachers, ICT enabled education, curriculum reforms etc.

Teachers and enrolment in Science subjects

853. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of teachers teaching Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics in centrally run schools all over the country and the vacancies of teachers still to be filled in these subjects;
- (b) whether there has been a decline in students opting for pure sciences in centrally run schools and also in general; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and Government's efforts to revive interest of youngsters in Science subjects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The number of teachers and their vacancies for teaching subjects Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics in Kendriya Vidyalayas, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and Central Tibetan Schools, which are centrally run schools, are as under:—

Subject	Kendriya Vidyalayas			Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas			Central Tibetan Schools		
	Sanctioned strength	In position	Posts lying vacant	Sanctioned strength	In position	Posts lying vacant	Sanctioned strength	In position	Posts lying vacant
Physics	1146	1003	143	483	363	120	18	18	—
Chemistry	1146	992	154	483	353	130	18	18	—
Mathematics	1042	861	181	505	383	122	18	18	—

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Closure of private engineering and management colleges

854. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has approved closure of certain private Engineering and Management colleges across the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of seats available for under-Graduate courses in various streams of Engineering and Management in private/Government colleges, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to tread cautiously on the issue of granting deemed status to educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State-wise number of technical institutions who have submitted application for closure of programme is as follows:—

(i) Chhattisgarh – 04 (ii) Gujarat – 13 (iii) Madhya Pradesh – 05 (iv) West Bengal – 02 (v) Bihar – 01 (vi) Uttar Pradesh – 17 (vii) Uttarakhand – 01 (viii) Haryana – 06 (ix) Punjab – 06 (x) Rajasthan – 18 (xi) Andhra Pradesh – 56 (xii) Tamil Nadu – 02 (xiii) Karnataka – 05 (xiv) Maharashtra – 07.

The All India Council for Technical Institutions (AICTE) has not asked for reasons for closures for institutions. However, this may be due to poor admission in the institutions.