

or salary for number of months of service left, whichever is less. However, the compensation would be subject to maximum of 60 months salary.

The *ex-gratia* amount will be in addition to the normal retirement benefits. Likely expenditure on *ex-gratia* for approximately 1 Lac employees is estimated to be about Rs. 12,371 crores. In addition, there will be expenditure on normal retirement benefits *viz.* Gratuity, Pension, leave encashment and transfer grant.

(c) BSNL had consultations with its Executive Associations and Staff Unions. BSNL has reported that majority of Associations/Unions have opposed the scheme or expressed their reservations.

#### **Grants provided to primary schools under SSA**

†851. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR:  
SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

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

(a) whether maintenance grants, development grants and educational material grants are provided to the primary schools of the country under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated, released and utilized under the SSA during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise and grant-wise; and

(c) the details of the grants released and utilized monthly under the SSA during the last three years and current year, year-wise, State-wise and month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), on annual basis a school grant and maintenance grant is provided to a primary and upper primary school while a teacher grant for educational aids is provided to each teacher in these schools.

(b) The year-wise and State-wise allocation of grants and utilisation thereof as reported by the States for the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is given in Annexure. (See Appendix 226 Annexure No. 13)

(c) The grants in (b) above are meant for use at the school level as per need for the year. Monthly utilization figures are not compiled at National level.

#### **Standard of education in schools**

852. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need to improve the standard of education in private, aided and Government schools; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(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:—