

Admission of BPL category students under RTE Act

1638. SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that very few States have implemented the Right to Education (RTE) Act and made rules and regulations;
- (b) the details of compensation given to private schools for admission of BPL/other categories of students taken as per the Act, State-wise;
- (c) the criteria set for neighbourhood schools in the Act; and
- (d) whether boarding schools also fall in this category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No Sir, all States have notified State rules in order to implement the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

(b) The compensation to private schools under Section 12(1) (c) of the RTE Act is calculated by the concerned State based on the per child expenditure incurred by the State or the actual fee charged by the school, whichever is lower.

(c) The area or limits of establishment of a neighbourhood school is prescribed under the respective RTE Rules of the State/UT concerned. Only schools established by the appropriate government/local authority are neighbourhood schools under the RTE Act.

(d) Residential schools which begin at classes above class I are not required to provide admission under Section 12(1) (c) of the RTE Act. Further, in respect of a residential school starting at class I or pre-primary class, the provision of Section 12(1) (c) shall be limited to day scholars only.

Entrance examination of premier institutions

1639. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether entrance examinations to the premier higher education institutions of the country have become a mockery;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents in this regard during last three years; and

(c) how many arrests have been made, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of faculty in Central and State Universities

1640. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE:

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

(a) whether there is acute shortage of teaching faculty in Central and State Universities across the country and about 35 per cent to 50 per cent faculty positions are lying vacant in Central Universities and State Universities, respectively;

(b) whether there is a faculty deficit of around one lakh teachers in technical education also; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to meet the shortage of teaching faculty in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to meet the situation arising out of shortage of faculty, the age of superannuation of teachers in Central Educational Institutions has been enhanced to sixty five years. Further, subject to availability of vacant positions and fitness, teachers can also be re-employed on contract basis up to the age of seventy years. The revised pay of teachers in Universities/Colleges after the Sixth Pay Commission is better than that of the civil servants. University Grants Commission (UGC) has also launched a scheme called 'Operation Faculty Recharge Programme' to tackle the shortage of faculty in the university system. Rates of Junior Research Fellowships and Senior Research Fellowships have also been increased. Science-based education and research in Universities has been strengthened and Universities have been permitted to engage adjunct/guest faculty/ make contractual appointments of faculty to meet the shortfall. A task force was constituted to make appropriate recommendations for alleviating shortage of quality faculty. The report of the Task Force has been received. An Implementation