

(c) the details of major constraints including lack of physical infrastructure, lack of trained teachers or other social/pedagogic/financial reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) As per the District Information System for Education (DISE), 2011-12, the nationwide enrolment of children aged 6-14 years has increased from 19,30,51,999 in 2010-11 to 19,90,55,138 in 2011-12.

(b) An independent sample survey conducted in 2009, estimated the nationwide number of out of school children (6-13 years) at 81.5 lakh. As per State Government reports compiled in April, 2012, the number of out-of-school children in the country was estimated at around 30 lakh.

(c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been supporting State Government/UT Administrators for improving access, retention and quality at elementary level. Since the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 became operative in April, 2010, sanctions have been given under the SSA for the construction of 30,808 primary schools and 10,644 upper primary schools, 6.88 lakh additional classrooms, 31,678 drinking water facilities, 5.18 lakh toilets and for the appointment of over 7 lakh teachers. The States/Union Territories (UTs) are also provided support for the training of untrained teachers to enable them to acquire professional qualifications. During the financial year, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 (till 11th February, 2013), the Government of India has released an amount of Rs. 19,601.88 crore, Rs. 20,775.38 crore and Rs. 21,384.53 crore, respectively under the SSA.

Review of technical institutions

1322. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to constitute a committee to review all the centrally funded premier technical institutions in the country like IITs and IIMs;

(b) the criteria on which the members and chairman of the proposed committee would be selected;

(c) the details of the system of peer review test of the institutions in terms of evolution towards meeting world standards in terms of what is happening academically, technically and in the field of research; and

(d) whether the peer review is conducted according to international benchmark and it is expected to bring about transparency and accountability to the institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (d) The Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), in its 46th meeting held on 07.01.2013, *inter-alia* accepted one of the recommendations of the re-constituted Standing Committee of the Council of IITs (SCIC), to carry out an external peer review of the IITs by a Review Committee of five eminent persons from Academia and Industry, on a periodic basis once in every five years. It principally envisages an academic review focusing on the core academic activities of teaching and research, as also inter-action with Industry, with special emphasis on the parameters related to (a) International Comparability, (b) Outreach to Community, (c) Commitment to National Goals, (d) Sustainability, and (e) Linkages with industry and Economic Development, Besides, each IIT would conduct an in-house department-wise review. With a view to enable all the IITs to realize the goals enunciated in its Vision and Mission statements, due importance would be attached to the review of matters that influence the academic performance, such as, governance, management structure and support systems. Presently, there is no proposal to constitute a Committee to review the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs).

**Introduction of four year Bachelor's degree course in
Delhi University**

†1323. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University of Delhi is going to start four year Bachelor's degree courses, Baccalaureate Education System in the year 2013 itself;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) and educationists are strongly protesting against introduction of this educational system;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has studied all the aspects of this system so that it may not have adverse impact on students, teachers and standard of education; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.