

(b) The Central Government has issued advisories to all Central Universities and Centrally Funded Technical Institutions from time to time to implement the OBC reservation policy in employment. UGC as well as Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) are reviewing the status of filling up of vacancies reserved for SCs, STs and OBC in all Centrally funded higher educational institutions from time to time.

Declining learning outcomes

2126. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the learning outcomes have actually declined over the last seven years, inspite of the enactment of the Right to Education Act and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any measures are being undertaken to remedy this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which uses a rigorous research methodology, conducts very detailed periodic national surveys of learning achievement of children in classes – III, V and VIII. Two rounds of National Learners' Achievement Surveys have been completed by NCERT which have revealed improvements in the overall learning levels, even though achievements remain low. The findings of the third round conducted recently for class V also indicate that there is enhancement in the level of achievement in most States.

(c) to (e) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for a system of continuous and comprehensive evaluation (CCE) of the child's understanding of knowledge and his/her ability to apply the same. The Act also places an obligation on the teacher to assess the learning ability of each child and provide additional instructions, if required. The NCERT has developed

guidance material on the CCE which has been shared with the States. As of now, 22 States/UTs have reported that they are implementing the system of CCE. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, the State Governments and UT Administrations are supported on several interventions to improve the quality of elementary education that include, *inter-alia*, regular in-service teacher training, distribution of free and improved textbooks, recruitment of additional teachers for better pupil-teacher ratios, academic support for schools and teachers through block and cluster resource centres, continuous and comprehensive evaluation system, teacher and school grants for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc.

Financial assistance to institutions by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan

†2127. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the institutions recognised as Model Sanskrit Colleges/ Research Institutions for providing financial assistance by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, State-wise;

(b) the norms adopted to grant recognition to these institutions for this purpose; and

(c) the amount of assistance provided to each of such institutions during the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The details of the 25 institutions recognized as the Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya (ASM)/Shodha Sansthans, State-wise, are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The norms for recognizing these institutions are given in Statement-II (*See* below). This may also be seen at the website www.sanskrit.nic.in of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan.

(c) The details of financial assistance provided to these institutions during last three years and current year are given in the Statement-I.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.