

Outcome based learning under RTE Act

77. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate a policy to determine the quality outcomes in school education under the RTE Act and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is no focus on outcome based learning under the current Act and the model rules for RTE and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study to determine the improvement in quality of teaching at the school level during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 envisages a system of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) of the child's learning and places an obligation on the teacher to assess the learning ability of each child. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed guidance material on the CCE which have been shared with the States.

(c) and (d) The NCERT conducts periodic surveys of the learning achievements of children in classes III, V and VIII every two to three years, which provide national trends as well as comparative State-wise data. Two rounds of National Learners' Achievement Surveys have been completed by the 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.

Establishment of Schools of Education

78. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Schools of Education as proposed in the Conference of State Higher and Technical Education held in April 2012, have been established;

(b) if so, the universities selected for establishing the schools; and

(c) how many of these have started functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) In the meeting conducted in April, 2012, it was decided that Schools of Education can be set up in select universities as part of the National Mission on Teachers and Training.

(b) It was decided by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to set up Schools/Departments of Education in all the Central Universities to begin with. UGC has also requested all State Universities, eligible as per Section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956, to send supplementary proposals. In response, UGC has received 66 proposals.

(c) A total of 19 Schools/Departments of Education are functioning in the Central Universities out of a total of 42 Central Universities.

Establishment of Regional Centres of Education

79. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Centres of Education as contemplated in the Conference of State Higher and Technical Education held in April, 2012 have been established; and

(b) if so, the details of such centres and their working?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The Working Group report on Teacher Education for the Twelfth Five Year Plan has recommended the establishment of four Regional Centres of Educational Management in the IIMs at Ahmedabad, Calcutta and Bangalore and in the NUEPA, Delhi to provide a postgraduate degree in Education Management for the heads of DIETs, SCERTs and other in-service practitioners.