

(c) if not, the manner in which the shortage of trained teachers would be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have sought relaxation from the minimum qualifications required for appointment as a teacher, due to the non-availability of teachers possessing minimum qualifications as laid down by the National Council for Teacher Education, under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

To address this issue, the Government has sanctioned a Rs. 6308 crore project to strengthen Teacher Education in the Country during the Twelfth Plan. The main components of the revised Scheme are the setting up of new District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), Colleges of Teacher Education (CTEs) and Institutes of Advance Study in Education (LASEs) as well as strengthening of existing DIETs, CTEs and LASEs. The Scheme also envisages establishment of Block Institutes of Teacher Education (BITEs) in 196 identified SC/ST Minority concentration districts as elementary pre-service teacher education institutions.

In addition, NCTE has given permission to respective State Governments for training the 5,09,736 in-service untrained teachers through distance mode.

Establishment of new educational institutions

2869. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to constitute any new central educational institutions like IIT, IIIT, IEST in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Distance education programme by universities

2870. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: