

(f) the steps taken by Government to ensure the appointment of optimum number of the teaching staff to ensure implementation of the RTE Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) All the State Governments and UTs with a State Legislature have notified the Rules under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The RTE Rules notified by the Central Government apply to the UTs without State Legislature.

(c) Upto 2012-13, a total of 19.82 lakh posts of teachers have been sanctioned under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for elementary classes, of which 6.96 lakh posts are vacant, including around 3 lakh posts at primary level.

(d) As per the District Information System for Education (DISE), 2011-12, the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) was 31:1 for primary level and 29:1 for upper primary level.

(e) and (f) Some State Governments had appointed Para teachers to address the problem of teacher shortage. Since the commencement of the RTE Act in 2010, over 7 lakh additional teacher posts have been sanctioned under the SSA for elementary education.

**Seats in educational institutions for students
from Jammu and Kashmir**

551. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government/UGC has granted supernumery increase of two seats in educational institutions all over the country to admit specifically the students from Jammu and Kashmir against these seats;

(b) if so, the date on which the guidelines to implement this scheme were issued by the Ministry; and

(c) if guidelines have not been issued, the reasons therefor and expected date of release of such guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing a special scholarship scheme for students

from Jammu and Kashmir. In the Inter-Ministerial Committee meeting, it was decided that students who do not get routine admission in colleges/institutes, will be given admission under supernumerary quota.

Accordingly, the University Grants Commission has approved a decision regarding the provision of two seats under supernumerary quota in all universities/institutions which are recognized under section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, for general courses, in its meeting held on 6th September, 2012. A letter to this effect was issued by UGC to all Universities recognized under section 2(f) and 12(B) on 19th October, 2012.

(c) Question does not arise.

Scholarships to students from Jammu and Kashmir

552. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from students from Jammu and Kashmir for scholarships under Prime Minister's special scheme in the year 2011-12 and 2012-13, year-wise;

(b) the number of scholarships disbursed and the students benefited, year-wise; and

(c) the cause for delay in disbursement of scholarships and the steps taken to avoid such delays in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) In 2011-12, 420 applications were received and in 2012-13, upto December, 2012, 5008 applications have been received.

(b) In 2011-12, scholarships were disbursed to 38 eligible students. Disbursement of scholarships for 2013 is under process.

(c) The scholarships are disbursed after proper verification, which is a time-consuming process. The operation of the Scheme has been transferred to All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) which would, in future, receive applications on-line and reduce delays.