

(b) The Education Commission, 1964-66, under the Chairmanship of Dr. D.S Kothari, projected that the educational expenditure in the country as a whole should rise to 6 per cent of the Gross National Product by 1985-86. The National Policy on Education 1986, as modified in 1992, had also laid down that the investment on education be gradually increased to reach a level of 6% of the National Income as early as possible.

(c) The outlay of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) for the Twelfth Five Year Plan is Rs. 453728 crore (Rs. 343028 crore for the Department of School Education and Literacy and Rs. 110700 crore for the Department of Higher Education). As compared to the outlay of Eleventh Plan, which was Rs. 269873 crore, (Rs. 184930 crore for the Department of School Education and Literacy and Rs. 84943 crore for Department of Higher Education), this is an increase of 68%. This increase in central plan outlay for education represents a determined effort on the part of the Central Government for raising public spending on education towards the national goal of spending 6% of GDP for education. Overall progress towards this goal, would also depend to a great extent on the investment made by the States on education. It should be noted that the overall target of 6% of GDP would include private sector spending on education as well.

Utilization of funds under SSA in Maharashtra

564. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released to Maharashtra under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for the year 2012-13;

(b) the amount spent by the State till January, 2013;

(c) the reasons for not spending the total amount consecutively for three years; and

(d) the reasons for the States spending the sanctioned amount in the last two months of the financial year and falling prey to scams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The Government of India has released the Central share of Rs. 995.75 crore to the Maharashtra Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for 2012-13 till date. The Government of Maharashtra has reported

an expenditure of Rs. 1534.29 crores till December, 2012, which also includes the State share.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Maharashtra has reported 92% expenditure against funds available in 2009-10, 96% in 2010-11 and 95% in 2011-12. The expenditure has been evenly spread over the year. Upon detection of financial irregularities, action has been undertaken by the State at once.

Admission of EWS students in schools

†565. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 25 per cent of students belonging to families of economically weaker sections are getting admission in private schools across the country including National Capital Region, Delhi;

(b) whether complaints are being received from various cities that this provision is not being followed in private schools; and

(c) whether this is being monitored at any level and if so, the manner in which it is being monitored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years. Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act provides that a specified category school and unaided private school shall admit in class-I (or pre-primary as the case may be) to the extent of at least twenty-five per cent of the strength of that class, those children belonging to the weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood and provide free and compulsory elementary education to them till its completion.

The Sections 31 and 32 of the RTE Act provide for a monitoring mechanism by the National Commission for Protection of Child Right (NCPCR) and the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) and for the redressal of grievances by local authorities.

It is for the appropriate State Government and the concerned local authority to ensure implementation of the RTE Act.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.