

Minimum standards for schools

2674. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any minimum standards, qualitative or quantitative, have been set for secondary and senior secondary schools;
- (b) whether any National programmes on curriculum renewal and school-based Continuous and Comprehensive Education have been launched;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for universalisation of secondary education, standards relating to Pupil Teacher Ratio, Student Classroom Ratio, physical facilities and staffing and equipments in government schools have been laid down.

Further, the Central Board of Secondary Education has laid down benchmarks and guidelines regarding quality of education in schools covered under the Board and made accreditation of all the schools affiliated to it, mandatory.

(b) to (d) Based on the NCERT's National Curriculum Framework in 2005, on date, 31 States/UTs have adopted curricular materials based on the NCF 2005.

The CBSE is implementing the Continuous and Comprehensive Education (CCE) methodology for school based assessments in classes IX and X from the year 2009 in all schools affiliated to it.

Implementation of Sixth Pay Commission recommendations in ICSSR

2675. PROF. MRINAL MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the regional centres of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) are organisationally a part of the council;
- (b) if so, whether the Sixth Central Pay Commission recommendations have been implemented in relation to the employees of these centres; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor, and whether there is any intention of implementing the same in the near future?