

At the secondary level under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), 2263 schools have been opened/upgraded and 4388 schools have been strengthened, in these districts. At the secondary level, 163 new schools have sanctioned to Himachal Pradesh so far. Of these 2 are in Kinnaur. Besides 848 secondary schools have been approved for strengthening of which 20 schools have been sanctioned for Kinnaur and 7 for Lahaul and Spiti.

Toilets for girls in primary schools

†804. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no arrangement of toilets for girls in most of the primary schools in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is proposing to take any effective steps in this direction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when the steps would be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) As per Unified District Education System for Education (U-DISE) 2013-14, 92765 Government primary schools in the country do not have girls toilets. In pursuance of the national call to provide toilets in all schools within a year, construction of toilets in 26749 schools have been taken-up by the corporate sector. In addition to this, toilets in 59204 primary schools have been constructed/sanctioned under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme for 2014-15.

India's rank in PISA

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

(a) the rank obtained by India in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), 2009 Index;

(b) the reasons for India not participating in PISA, 2012; and

(c) the measures that have been taken since 2009 to improve India's performance on the indicators used in the survey?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) India Participated in PISA 2009 was only through schools in Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh, in which 73rd rank was assigned by the PISA, 2009 Index. The reasons for poor performance were analysed and it was observed that the nature of questions/items asked in the PISA tests are content free and mostly application-based that require information on international names, brands, trademarks, products, etc. with which Indian students, especially students from rural areas, are unfamiliar.

(b) and (c) India has developed its own student assessment survey systems called the National Pupil Assessment Surveys (NAS), which are independently conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) across the country on the latest international Item Response Theory (IRT) methodology. The NAS is conducted for classes III, V, VIII and X *i.e.* the critical stages of education early primary, end of primary, upper primary and secondary levels. The NAS is conducted every three years and provides detailed information on learning outcomes which is useful for teacher training, curriculum development and for improving quality of education.

Appointment of teachers on contract basis

806. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of teachers are being appointed on a contract basis depriving them the regular salary and fringe benefits;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with teachers appointed in Government and private schools on contract basis during the last three years;

(c) whether any assessment has been made of its impact on the standard of education;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to discourage/prevent such appointments on regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The recruitment of and terms and conditions of service, including salary and accountability measures for school teachers are largely in the jurisdiction of State/Union Territory Governments, and not in the realm of the Central Government. As per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) data 2013-14 there are 4.47 lakhs teachers on contract in the country at elementary level.