

(c) and (d) Education, being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, and the majority of schools being under the jurisdiction of the State Governments, it is for the respective State/Union Territory Governments to develop curriculum and prescribe the textbooks for their schools. There is no proposal to enforce uniform curriculum and books throughout the country.

#### **Grants to Madhya Pradesh under RTE**

2269. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the grants sanctioned and released to Madhya Pradesh during the last three years to meet the target of education to all under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act;

(b) the reasons for delay in reimbursement of the remaining amount; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to help the State in achieving the 30:1 ratio of students and teacher as per RTE Act?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Outlay approved and Central share released to State Government of Madhya Pradesh under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during the last three years, in accordance with the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 are as under:

(₹ in lakhs)

Year	Outlay approved (Central share only)	Grant released
2012-13	243417.10	135343.30
2013-14	206203.05	200408.56
2014-15	253749.289	149094.91

The first installment of Central share is released in the beginning of the financial year and release of subsequent installments is based on the utilization of funds and receipt of audited statement etc.

During the year 2015-16, an amount of ₹ 299411.78 lakh has been approved for the State of Madhya Pradesh under SSA out of which an ad-hoc grant of ₹ 62928.25 lakh has been released.

(c) During the year 2013-14, the Student-Teacher Ratio in the State Government of Madhya Pradesh at primary level was 24:1 and at upper primary level it was 20:1. Number of teacher posts sanctioned by the Central Government to the State

Government of Madhya Pradesh under SSA, at primary and upper primary level is 93,802 and 85,126 against which 76,412 and 67,960 teacher posts have been filled up respectively, till 31.03.2015.

#### **Learning level of primary schools**

2270. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, despite high enrolments in primary schools of our country, the level of learning is not up to the mark;

(b) if so, whether Government has any report on that and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts National Achievement Surveys (NAS) at periodic intervals to assess the learning levels of children in classes III, V and VIII. Three rounds of NAS have been conducted so far. These reveal that the learning outcomes have improved in various subjects.

The Central Government, through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), provides assistance to State Governments/UTs to provide quality education to elementary school children through requisite institutional, infrastructural and academic interventions.

The other interventions for improving quality of education in schools under SSA include, *inter-alia*, additional teachers to improve pupil-teacher ratios, regular annual-in-service teacher training to all teachers to update their skills and knowledge, free textbooks to children, two sets of uniforms to all girls, SC/ST and BPL boys, support for Computer Aided Learning at upper primary level and regular academic support through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres. The Central Government has launched the 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat', a sub-programme under SSA with a focus for an early grade reading, writing and comprehension, and early mathematics programme and focussed programme at upper primary level for mathematics and science teaching learning.

#### **Experts on Gandhian studies in China**

2271. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Centre in China is unable to find experts on Gandhian studies and if so, the reasons therefor;