

- (iv) Teachers can also be re-employed on contract appointment beyond the age of sixty five years upto the age of seventy years, subject to availability of vacant positions and fitness.
- (v) UGC initiated a scheme called Operation Faculty Recharge for augmenting the research and teaching resources of universities to tackle the shortage of faculty in university system.
- (vi) UGC also framed the guidelines for empanelment of Adjunct Faculty in Universities and Colleges. These guidelines enable higher educational institutions to access the eminent teachers and researchers who have completed their formal association with the University/College, to participate in teaching, to collaborate and to stimulate research activities for quality research at M. Phil and Ph.D. levels; and to play mentoring and inspirational role.

With the appointment of regular Vice Chancellors and providing of Visitor's nominees to all Central Universities for Selection Committees for teachers, the process of filling up of vacant teaching posts has gathered momentum.

Commercialisation of education

2608. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed its steps taken to check the growing trend of commercialisation of education; if so, the outcome thereof;
- (b) whether some private educational institutions are being operated in the country in the garb of Right to Education with a view to earning profit; and
- (c) if so, the number of such educational institutions being run in the country, State-wise and the action taken by Government to put a check on such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) Yes, Sir. All policy initiatives in the education sector are discussed in the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) which is the highest advisory body in the field of education to advice Central Government and State Governments and UTs. The CABE consists of Education Ministers of States and UTs and eminent educationists. The Government has consistently held the view that education in India is not regarded as a commercial activity and all educational institutions have to be set up in the "not for profit" mode. The National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) encourages non-governmental and voluntary efforts in Education, while preventing the establishment of institutions which intend to commercialize Education.

(b) and (c) The Government of India, in collaboration with State Governments and UT Administrations, is implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme for providing free and compulsory elementary education with an aim to meet the objectives of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The enrolment of children in the Government and Government aided schools is about 67% in 2015-16, wherein majority of children are in Government and Government aided schools at elementary level.

Section 13 of the RTE Act, 2009 clearly prohibits collection of any capitation fee. For higher educational institutions, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued regulations under the UGC Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities, 2003, in an effort to curb commercialisation of education.

Teachers Training Programmes

2609. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider to start teachers training programmes to motivate teachers particularly of Government schools, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the number of days allotted for training of elementary school teachers under SSA and the steps being taken to address the growth of low quality teachers under SSA and the steps being taken to address the growth of low quality Teachers Training Institutes in the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) The Central Government, under the flagship programmes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) provides funding to State and UT Governments to improve Elementary and Secondary education respectively. Provision for in-service teacher training is an integral component of both the SSA and RMSA programmes. Under SSA, there is a provision of refresher residential or non-residential in-service training of 10 days for all teachers each year at the Block Resource Centre (BRC) level, and upto 10 days at the Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) level. Residential Induction training for newly recruited teachers for 30 days and training of untrained teachers to enable them to acquire professional qualifications is also provided in the scheme. The training provided to teachers is subject specific and need based. The training modules are developed by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) in the State and the training is imparted through a cascade model of the State level with Key Resource Persons training master trainers at the district level who then train teachers at Block and Cluster level. The