

The learning outcomes for students at elementary level are being finalized and these will, then, be included in the RTE Rules.

**Progress of enrolled children to upper secondary level**

207. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large percentage of children enrolled in schools do not progress to upper secondary school (Higher Secondary), if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the plans being laid out by Government to check this problem; and

(c) the details of the progress of the plans made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) As per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) data, there exists a gap in the progress of children from secondary to higher secondary level. The major reasons for drop-out of students at secondary stage of education include gaps in access to Higher Secondary Schools within a reasonable distance, lack of transportation facility, migration of parents, illiteracy of parents, socio-economic factors, engagement of children in work, early marriage, adolescence issues, sibling care, engaging the girl child in household work, lack of understanding of medium of instruction, choice for vocation or vocational training etc.

(b) and (c) Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, which primarily aims to improve access, equity and quality in Government Secondary Schools also supports quality and equity interventions at higher secondary levels, through the provisions of Vocationalization of education, Information and Communication Technology in Schools, Girls Hostels and Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage. As per UDISE 2015-16, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) at Higher Secondary level has increased to 56.16%, from 36.11% in 2009-10.

**Standard of Indian Universities**

208. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA:

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether none of the universities in the country is ranked within first 100 globally, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that because of this situation many of the students, especially in science, technology and management, opt for admission in the universities and institutions abroad for quality education and collectively spend more than ₹43,000 crore every year which amounts to drainage of valuable foreign exchange; and

(c) what steps Government plans to take to improve the standard of Indian universities to be well within top 100 ranks and restrict students going abroad for higher studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) Yes, Sir. Presently no Indian University is ranked under 100 as per the renowned global ranking systems.

(b) The instance of emigration of Indian students to foreign universities are catalysed by numerous reasons such as availability of variety of academic courses, higher research and development funds, higher number of seats for the courses, job-oriented courses, personal preferences, etc.

(c) Government has announced its resolve to promote 20 universities to become world-class teaching and research institutions - 10 public and 10 private through a liberalised regulatory framework. Accordingly, UGC has issued draft guidelines and invited suggestions from all stakeholders. Apart from this, to improve the standard of Indian Universities, various schemes, namely, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Global Initiative for Academics Network (GIAN), Impacting Research, Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT), Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP), Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNMTT) Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), National Digital Library, campus connect programme, Uchhatar Avishkar Abhiyan, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan are being implemented to improve the quality of higher education in the country. A number of initiatives are also undertaken by UGC and AICTE for quality improvement in higher and technical education.

#### **Mechanism for efficient teachers participation in public schools**

209. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is satisfied with the accountability mechanism in place to ensure efficient teachers participation in public schools of the country;