in this regard and provide Central funds for recruiting teachers to deal with the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

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•	State	Total	In position	Vacant
At Elementary Level	Delhi	58439	50346	8093
	Maharashtra	314938	296267	18671
At Secondary Level	Delhi	14893	12537	2356
	Maharashtra	24553	19336	5217

(c) As per Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) at primary level should be 1:30 and at upper primary level it should be 1:35. The correct deployment of teachers in schools is therefore very important. However, in Delhi the PTR is 1:24 at primary level and 1:17 at upper primary level. In Maharashtra the PTR is 1:24 at primary level and 1:17 at upper primary level.

At the secondary level as against the National PTR of 27, the PTR of Maharashtra and Delhi is 23 and 30 respectively.

As per UDISE 2015-16, the number of surplus teachers in NCT of Delhi and Maharashtra at elementary level is 1303 and 19535 respectively. Accordingly, both the States have been advised to complete teacher rationalization and redeployment process and instructions have been issued to recruit teachers or to deploy surplus teachers on vacant positions so that required number of teachers are available before the beginning of next academic session. The Central Government has been consistently pursuing the matter of expeditious recruitment and redeployment of teachers with the States and UTs at various fora.

Online payment of fee at NIOS

3264. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the online payment of fees at National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is unsuccessful;

- (b) whether Government is also aware that the fee is not deposited in the students account immediately; and
 - (c) if so, the details of action taken against the responsible authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) The online payment of fees in NIOS has been working satisfactorily. After implementation of online payment of fees system 100% payment of fees is ensured in NIOS account instantly without any delay. Fee deposited by students for various courses are deposited in NIOS account immediately.

Dispatching of books for NIOS examinations

3265. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the books for standard 10 and 12 are not dispatched till 15th January, 2017 to the students who are going to appear for the examinations during April, 2017 at National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS);
- (b) if so, the reasons for late dispatch of books and the action taken against the responsible authority for the late dispatch to Gujarat and other States; and
- (c) the manner in which the authority is going to compensate the time loss to the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) By and large the study material was made available to the learners. In some of the cases all the materials could not be sent in one spell. However, the study material was made available through the NIOS website to compensate for such unforeseen delays and informed to learners through the Prospectus placed on the website (www.nios.ac.in).

Recognition of one year Masters degree course from abroad

3266. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: