

level and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan at secondary level, provides assistance to the State Governments and UTs for additional teachers to maintain appropriate Pupil Teacher Ratio as per the prescribed norms for various levels of schooling.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been enacted for universalization of elementary education *i.e* for classes I to VIII across the country. The RTE Act, 2009 in its Schedule lays down Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) for both primary and upper primary schools. At primary level, the norm for PTR is 30:1 and at the upper primary level it is 35:1. As per the UDISE 2015-16, the PTR at national level for elementary schools for rural and urban areas is 25:1 and 26:1 respectively, which is better than the norm laid down in the RTE Act, 2009. As per RMSA framework, PTR norm at secondary level is 30:1. As per UDISE 2015-16, the PTR at Secondary Level for rural areas and urban areas is 28:1 and 26:1 respectively, which is better than the norms.

Further, the Central Government has issued advisories to the States and UTs for redeployment of teachers in order to ensure that all school teachers spend adequate time serving in rural areas through a transparent policy.

#### **Committee on deemed university**

†2019. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to form a Committee on deemed universities;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this regard till date; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) Pursuant to the Judgment Order dated 03.11.2017 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal Nos. 17869-17870/2017, this Ministry has constituted a Committee to examine the issues in the distance education offered by Higher Educational Institutions especially pertaining to technical education and its allied fields, and also to suggest a road map for strengthening and setting up of oversight and regulatory mechanism on the institutions offering distance education. The Committee has also been asked to suggest oversight mechanism to regulate the Deemed to be Universities.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.