

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017

Equal Promotion of Languages

2795. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has worked out any plan to allocate equal time for the promotion of English and local languages at school level in the country;
- (b) if so, the guidelines issued to the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and other Educational Boards in this regard;
- (c) whether the working hours of school teachers have been increased recently and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the increased working hours of school teachers have made their profession more strenuous and if so, the corrective measures taken/being taken in this regard; and
- (e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to impart quality education in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) and (b) In order to promote language harmony and equality among Languages in school education, the Government has adopted the 'Three Language Formula', as recommended in the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1968. The Three Language Formula as stated in the 1968 Policy is as under:

- The First Language to be studied must be the mother tongue or the regional language
- The Second Language
In Hindi speaking states, the second language will be some other modern Indian language or English, and
In non-Hindi speaking states, the second language will be Hindi or English.
- The Third language
In Hindi speaking states, the third language will be English or a modern Indian language not studied as the second language, and
In non-Hindi speaking states, the third language will be English or a modern Indian language not studied as the second language.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) In view of (c) above, the Question does not arise.

(e) The Central Government implements Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for improvement of elementary and secondary education, respectively. Under SSA, the State Governments and UT Administrations are supported on several interventions to improve teaching standards, including regular in-service teachers' training, induction training for newly recruited teachers, training of all untrained teachers to acquire professional qualifications through Open Distance Learning (ODL) mode, recruitment of additional teachers for improving pupil-teacher ratios, academic support for teachers through block and cluster resource centres, continuous and comprehensive evaluation system to equip the teacher to measure pupil performance and provide remedial action wherever required, and teacher and school grants for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 specifies statutory duties and responsibilities of teachers and lays down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in elementary schools.

In order to provide quality education to students at the secondary level, various interventions are funded under the RMSA, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. These include provision for : (i) additional teachers to improve Pupil Teacher Ratio, (ii) induction and in-service training for Principals, Teachers, Master Trainers and Key Resource Persons, (iii) Maths and Science kits, (iv) Lab equipments, (v) Special teaching for learning enhancement, (vi) ICT facilities in schools, (vii) introduction of vocational education component at the secondary level.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts periodic National Achievement Surveys (NAS) of learning achievements of children in classes III,V,VIII and X. NCERT has also developed Performance Indicators for Elementary Education (PINDICS) to track performance and attendance in Government schools. PINDICS have been shared with State Governments/UTs to assess teacher's performance.
