

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2591  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.3.2018**

**Teachers' Absenteeism**

**† 2591. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken the cognizance of the report of the World Bank which says that as many as twenty five per cent teachers in the Government primary schools remain absent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the attendance of the teachers?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): The World Bank took up a research project in 2004, on teacher absenteeism in 6 countries, including India and conducted a survey in 3700 schools in 20 States. The report, inter alia, concluded that twenty-five per cent of teachers in Government primary schools remained absent from work on any given day.

(c): Section 24 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates that a teacher appointed under sub-section (1) of the Section 23 shall perform the following duties, namely (a) maintain regularity and punctuality in attending school and (b) complete entire curriculum within specified time.

The recruitment and service conditions, including monitoring of teachers' attendance are primarily in the domain of State Governments and UT Administrations. Teacher absenteeism is a serious issue and Ministry is working on multiple approaches to tackle this problem. The steps taken to improve teachers' attendance include, inter alia, encouraging States/UTs to monitor teachers' attendance through School Management Committees/School Management Development Committees/Block Resource Centres/Clusters Resource Centres and to use digital technology like installation of Bio-metric attendance system in schools.

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