

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:- 237
ANSWERED ON-05/02/2024

Shortage of Teachers in Schools

237. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:
SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is continuous shortage of school teachers in several schools of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andaman and Nicobar Islands particularly in the rural areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the number of schools facing the shortage of teachers and also the details of the number of vacancies of school teachers in schools, district-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to fill up the vacancies of teachers in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andaman and Nicobar Islands particularly in the rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to provide quality education to children in rural areas?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d): The recruitment of teachers in schools is a continuous process as vacancies keep arising due to factors like retirement, resignation and additional requirements on account of enhanced students' strength/new schools. Education is a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution and an overwhelming majority of schools are under the administrative control of respective State and Union Territory Governments. States may ensure that the vacancies are filled up in a time bound and transparent manner. The number of vacancies of teachers across all levels of schooling, as reported by Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands for the academic session 2023-24 is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Vacancy of Teachers reported by State/UT
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1078
2	Maharashtra	57749
3	Tamil Nadu	2266

The Department of School Education and Literacy, from time to time, through review meetings and advisories, requests the State Governments and UT administrations to fill up these vacancies and their rational deployment. Further, the Central Government through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, provides financial assistance to the States and UTs to maintain appropriate Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) for various levels of schooling, as per norms prescribed in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, as amended from time to time.

(e): In pursuance of the goals and objectives of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), several steps have been taken to provide quality education to children, including children in rural areas. These include National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring universal foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3; introduction of Vidya-Pravesh–Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module; launch of National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF SE) and National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF FS) in pursuance of NEP 2020; and introduction of Jadui Pitara: a play-based teaching learning material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years. For continuous in-service training of teachers, NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) for different stages of school education for Teachers, Head Teachers/Principals and other stakeholders in Educational Management is being conducted.

A comprehensive initiative called PM eVIDYA has been launched as part of AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan unifying all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multimode access to education. The initiative includes DIKSHA (one nation, one digital platform) as the nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content; Swayam Prabha TV channel for classes 1 to 12; use of Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani; and Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/YouTube, etc.

Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK), a digital infrastructure ecosystem which provides tools to administrators to effectively monitor the progress of education by leveraging data and technology, has been introduced in 12 States.

Apart from the above, financial assistance is provided to States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha for providing quality education including skill education to all children. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of PM POSHAN (POshan SHAKti Nirman) one hot cooked meal is provided to all eligible children in Government and Government-aided schools.
