

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2744
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
QUALITY EDUCATION
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

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

- (a) whether there is any boom in the education sector to bridge the gap of quality of education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken in this direction in coordination with the private participation to provide more quality education to students at each level?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (c): Education as a subject on the Concurrent List, is the shared responsibility of both Central and State Governments. The responsibility of school education lies primarily with the State Governments. It is the constant endeavor of the Government to promote qualitative improvement in education to make the education employment oriented. The Government has established various Boards of Studies which advise on academic matters falling in its area of concern, standards, model curricula, model facilities and structure of courses. Government has taken major initiatives in academic and institutional reforms in higher education sector which marks a paradigm shift in the development of higher education. Government aims to set up a National Commission/Council for Higher Education and Research as an apex body for determination, coordination and maintenance of standards and promotion of higher education and research. The National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) aims to embed vocational education in the educational system providing for horizontal and vertical mobility for youth to seamlessly move between general and vocational education. In order to promote quality in higher education Government aims to put in place the National Authority of Regulation and Accreditation.

The Government has also introduced in the Parliament, a Bill to regulate the entry of foreign education providers. The Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been enacted which envisages significant reforms in the Elementary Education sector specially with reference to admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by all children in schools which conform to specified norms and standards. The RTE Act provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. The RTE Act has come into force from 1st April, 2010. It is the duty of the appropriate government and local authority to implement the provisions of the RTE Act. The RTE Act provides that every school imparting elementary education has to adhere to the infrastructural and instructional norms and standards specified in its schedule.

The National Policy of Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) states that in the interest of maintaining standards and for several other valid reasons, the commercialization of technical and professional education will be curbed. However, Government favours active support and involvement of private participation for funding and management of educational institutions subject to reasonable surplus earned being ploughed back for development of the institutions. The 11th Plan document also mentions the need to further explore private sector initiatives and various forms of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the education sector.