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Title: Regarding the condition of government schools in rural areas.

SHRI R. DHYUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

I want to raise an important issue regarding the condition of schools in rural areas across the country. The enrollment ratio of students in private schools is increasing but the enrollment ratio in the Government schools is decreasing. As per the data available, according to the 2011 data of the District Information System for Education, the enrollment in Government schools was 69.6 per cent of total enrollment. It reduced to 62.8 per cent in 2013-14. On the other hand, the share of enrollment for private sector schools has gone up from 28.3 per cent in 2010-11 to 34.5 per cent in 2013-14. It shows that the enrolment ratio for private schools is increasing and enrolment ratio for government schools is decreasing. Although there are schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and the Government is providing money to strengthen the existing infrastructure in schools, the trend is towards private sector schools. Even in rural areas, parents are ready to spend Rs.200 per month for their children to study in private schools.

Sir, I wish to raise some other problems also, which the schools have to face. The first one is about shortage of teachers, especially in my district Chamarajnagar in Karnataka. It is a small district. We have a shortage of 630 teachers in government schools. The other problem is of additional administrative responsibilities and lack of incentive structure for government teachers. These are some of the problems which they face.

Sir, I would request the hon. HRD Minister to look into the situation and propose necessary reforms to improve standards of education in government schools across the country. Thank you.