

The Hitavada

Acute shortage of teachers in schools across C'garh

In government higher secondary school of Anda village, students of classes XI as well as XII cannot perform experiments of their Physics subject owing to the absence of Physics lecturer in school and from last five years, lecturer of Mathematics is managing the Physics subject of both classes. This is not the single case as there are acute shortage of teachers of many subjects in both government and private schools across Chhattisgarh. As a result, students face lots of difficulties owing to the absence of teacher of that particular subject.

According to the information of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) which deals with high school (classes IX and X) and secondary classes (classes XI as well as XII), of the 6,295, high schools in the state including private and government institutions only 4.5% have teachers of all core subjects. More than 65% of them have just two language teachers and one each for Mathematics and Science. In Physics, over 75% schools are struggling with the shortage problems and hence teachers of Mathematics and Chemistry have been forced to take classes of Physics subjects of secondary classes consist of classes XI and XII. Similar is the case of Sanskrit subjects of classes IX and X and here too, there is acute shortage of the teachers. Over 70% schools have failed to hire teachers of Sanskrit and thus, teachers of Hindi literature and other humanity subjects are forced to take classes of Sanskrit subjects. In comparison to government schools, condition of private schools is also pathetic and here too, most of the institutions do not have required amount of teachers of all core subjects. Less than half of the schools have at least one social studies teacher and in science, situation is horrible.

In the district of Bilaspur, Janjgir-Champa, Mahasamund and Bemetara, shortage of subject teachers hit the school education system and in many schools, due to shortage of teachers in many subjects, school authorities are forced to take the service of retired teachers and other ones as guest teachers to teach students of those subjects.

“We do not know understand these figures as we have a good number of core subject teachers. In keeping with the norms of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as well as Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009, we are also planning to recruit more teachers to fill vacancies in secondary schools” said senior officer of Department of School Education of Chhattisgarh.

But the reality is that claims of officials is false and all of school except few ones which are located in capital Raipur, Durg including Bhilainagar, Korba and Raigarh have facility of all subject teachers. The remaining districts of state are facing shortage of teachers and there is little possibility to solve this problem in coming days. A source stated the number of sanctioned posts for teachers of all forms (category I for secondary classes, category II for upper primary classes and category III for primary classes) is 35133. There is dearth of core subject teachers, with the vacancies numbering 4820. Apart from it, an efficient deployment policy and good planning should be required to come out from this problem. The state government must ensure demand and supply synchronisation and maintenance of a teacher database. Dr. PK Shrivastava, Well Known Educationist asserted that as per the rules, the government should upgrade high schools and higher secondary schools and even focus on upper primary classes too .