

Biometric attendance for teachers likely

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Biometric attendance and display of teachers' photographs on notice boards are among the measures being considered by the HRD ministry to prevent proxy teachers in government schools.

During Parliament's consultative committee meeting, which was chaired by HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar today, one of the MPs suggested performance-linked salary increments for teachers. The suggestion came when the ministry informed the committee about proxy teachers in government schools.

The HRD ministry is mulling over putting up

Preventing proxy attendance

The HRD Ministry is also planning to put up photographs of teachers on notice boards to check the complaints of proxy teachers in government schools



photographs of teachers on government school notice boards to prevent proxy teachers. This move would require amendment to the RTE Act, sources in the HRD ministry said.

The theme of the meeting, attended by nine Members of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, was measures needed to improve quality of government schooling.

Other amendments to the RTE Act are also being sought by the ministry for students to be detained in

some classes. Responses on the no-detention policy varies across the states, with some in favour of retaining it while others want exams to be brought back in Classes 5 and 8. An amendment to the RTE Act is required to enable each state to decide in which class a student should be detained.

The committee was also informed that NCERT is developing learning outcomes for every class. This will make it clear what a student of each class should

know or be able to do in every subject. It also discussed the need for active involvement of parents and school management committees and parent-teacher associations to improve quality of education.

Supervision and at times even preparation of mid-day meals and election duties takes up too much government teachers' time, thus adversely affecting teaching. Minister of State for HRD Upendra Kushwaha said a visit to a government school in their constituency by MPs would enable improvement in education quality. There are 13 crore students enrolled in government schools and 10 crore children in private schools.