GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1017 ANSWERED ON 04th DECEMBER, 2024

Implementation of Right to Education Act

1017. Shri Vikramjit Singh Sahney:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Right to Education Act (RTE) 2009, students from economically weaker sections are getting admission into private schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has conducted any impact assessment or any other search report on 'free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school' under the RTE Act; and

(d) whether specific measures are taken for the implementation of RTE 2009?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b) The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 effective from 1st April, 2010 is applicable to all States and UTs and mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighborhood school. Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the schools specified in sub-clauses (iii) and (iv) of clause (n) of section 2 in Class I (or below) to the extent of at least 25 percent of the strength of that class. As per PRABANDH portal, in the year 2023-24, Centre Government has approved for reimbursement towards expenditure incurred for admission of 32,54,279 students under section 12 (1)(c) of RTE Act, 2009. (c) and (d) Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of the respective State and UT Government which is the appropriate government under the RTE Act, 2009. As per section 8 of the RTE Act, 2009, it is the duty of appropriate Government to provide free elementary education to every child of the age of six to fourteen years in a neighborhood school. State and UT Governments also have the responsibility and mandate to implement various provisions of RTE Act, 2009 in accordance with the norms laid down in the Schedule to the RTE Act, 2009 and as per respective State RTE Rules.

States/UTs are supported in implementation of RTE Act, 2009 under Samagra Shiksha scheme. As per norms of the scheme, on the annual plans prepared by the States and UTs as per their requirements/ priority and is reflected in their respective Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) Proposals. These plans are then appraised and approved/estimated by the Project Approval Board (PAB) in the Department of School Education & Literacy in consultation with the States and UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme and physical and financial progress of the State for the interventions approved earlier.

This scheme focuses on providing support to all States/ UTs for different interventions like; in-service training of teachers and schools heads, conduct of achievement surveys at National and State level, composite school grant to every school for providing a conducive learning environment, library grants, provision of textbooks and school uniforms as per RTE Act, 2009, Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA), remedial teaching for academically weaker students, ICT and digital initiatives, grants for sports and physical education, School Evaluation, Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB), Performance Indicators for Teachers (PINDICS), Kala Utsav, Excursion trips for students, Twinning of Schools and Student and Teacher Exchange Programme.
