

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1890
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2018

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

1890. SHRI K.R.P. PRABAKARAN:

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

- (a) whether there is reportedly the absence of primary schools/education guarantee schemes/alternate schools, etc. under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in many parts of the country particularly in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for access to elementary schools for children within the defined area or limits of neighbourhood. **Section 6 of the Act** provides that ‘the appropriate government and local authorities’ shall establish, within the area or limits of a neighbourhood, a school, where it is not already established, within a period of three years from the commencement of the Act. **In pursuance to Section 6 of the Act**, the Central Government has notified the area or limits of neighbourhood as one kilometre, within which a primary school has to be established by the appropriate Government or the local authority. Accordingly, the States have notified area or limits of their neighbourhood norms, factoring in their State specific condition, for opening of schools. As reported by States/UTs in their Annual Work Plan and Budget, 2018-19, 97.15% of habitations in the country are covered by primary schools. The habitations that remain uncovered are mostly small or sparsely populated in difficult areas where opening of school is not feasible.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in partnership with State Governments for universalizing elementary education across the country by opening new elementary schools, construction of schools & additional classrooms etc. Since its inception, the scheme has provided 2.04 lakh primary schools for ensuring universal availability of schooling facilities. For the remaining habitations, there is a provision of giving transport and escort facility, and opening of residential schools and hostels.
