

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.727
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2018

Education for Autistic Children

727. SHRI PARTHA PRATIM RAY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to set up the special schools for the autistic children to fulfil the motto 'Education for All' ; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(a) &(b):- No, Madam. There is no provision in the Ministry of Human Resource Development to sanction/open new special schools for autistic children.

As per Section 3 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, every child in the age group of 6-14 years including children with disability has the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education in a neighbourhood school till completion of elementary education. Additionally, the RTE (Amendment) Act, 2012 makes available the right to opt for home based education (HBE) for children with Multiple and Severe Disabilities including children with Autism.

The Central Government has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha, from 2018-19, which aims to look at education needs of all children including Children with Special Needs, as a continuum from pre- school to senior secondary level. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, the focus is on providing Inclusive Education to Children with Special Needs (CwSN) in nearby Elementary and Secondary schools, wherein all children including autistic children participate and learn together in the same class.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is implementing a scheme namely Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations for running special schools after functioning for a minimum period of 2 years. It does not provide funds for opening of special schools or any other project under DDRS.
