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

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 86 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2018

Unsafe School Buildings

*86. SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has done any study to identify schools running from unsafe buildings in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government both in terms of policy as well as administratively to ensure safety of school going children in this respect?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 86 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER 2018 ASKED BY SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL REGARDING UNSAFE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- (a) and (b) The Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) collects data on various indicators of schools education. As per UDISE 2016-17 (Provisional), 0.67% schools are having building in dilapidated condition and 7.73% of classrooms in schools across the country require major repairs. State/UT-wise percentage of schools having building in dilapidated condition and percentage of classrooms requiring major repairs are at Annexure.
- (c) Section 19 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides the norms and standards for a school as specified in the Schedule to the Act. The RTE norms inter alia provide for a physically sound, all-weather building, and provision for arrangements for securing the school building by boundary wall or fencing. The States and UTs, defined as the 'appropriate Governments' under the Act, are implementing the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 through their respective State RTE Rules.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued guidelines on safety and security of children vide letter on 9th October, 2014 to all State and UT Governments suggesting preventive institutional mechanisms and procedures that should be put in place in the schooling system along with the relief and redressal strategies in case of such incidents. Para 4.1.2 of the guidelines inter alia states that the school building should be physically sound, all-weather structures, resistant to earthquakes, fire, safe from floods and other calamities as the children are more vulnerable to be harmed and less likely to be able to react effectively in case calamity strikes. The guidelines also state that building should be kept free from inflammable and toxic materials. If storage of some inflammable material (e.g. fuel for cooking midday meal) is inevitable, they should be stored safely. The school should have adequate emergency exits. There should be adequate supply of water and sand for fire-fighting purposes. The guidelines lay down carrying out building safety audit for every school, reducing structural vulnerability of existing school buildings, preparation of Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans, preparation of a standard Checklist to assess the existing structural risks in the school buildings and retrofitting to strengthen the schools found vulnerable.

The Department of School Education & Literacy has again advised all States and UTs on 11th September, 2017 to sensitize the entire administrative and monitoring machinery towards effective implementation of the guidelines on safety and security of school children; and institutionalizing and ensuring a safe, secure and vibrant environment in schools for children.

The Department has also written to all States and UTs vide letter dated 1st September, 2017 regarding the National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy. It was emphasized that the Guidelines on School Safety Policy 2016 prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority

(NDMA) are statutory in nature and are required to be complied without any deviation. The NDMA guidelines provide for conducting quarterly safety audits by the School Management Committee (SMC) in schools including fire safety and food safety. The guidelines are in public domain and hosted on www.mhrd.gov.in.

The Manual on Safety and Security of Children in Schools developed by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has also identified authorities at different levels such as School Management Committee, Parent Teacher Association, School Management, authorities at Block, District, State and National levels to monitor the implementation of the manual. The details are in public domain and hosted on www.ncpcr.gov.in

As per CBSE Affiliation Bye-laws, before grant of Affiliation, a school is required to submit a certificate from the competent authority to the effect that the school building is safe.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education – Samagra Shiksha, which subsumes the erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) in 2018-19. Samagra Shiksha supports States and UTs for strengthening of existing government schools, and for creation and augmentation of infrastructure facilities in government schools. The scheme provides an annual recurring school composite grant to all Government Schools for incurring recurring costs, inter alia, for annual maintenance and repair of existing school building, toilets and other facilities to upkeep the infrastructure in good condition. The amount of grant varies from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 per annum depending upon the number of students in the school. Each school is required to spend at least 10% of the composite school grant on activities related to Swachhata Action Plan.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 86 TO BE ANSWERED ON $17^{\rm TH}$ DECEMBER 2018 ASKED BY SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL REGARDING UNSAFE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Statement showing State/UT-wise percentage of schools having building in dilapidated condition and

percentage of classrooms requiring major repairs

| S. No. | ge of classrooms requiring major r | Percentage of schools with Building in Dilapidated Condition | Percentage of classrooms requiring major repairs |
|--------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 0.24 | 10.29 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.24 | 6.86 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.39 | 14.37 |
| 4 | Assam | 4.13 | 30.32 |
| 5 | Bihar | 0.6 | 10.47 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 0 | 0.74 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 1.71 | 9.80 |
| 8 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0 | 1.03 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 0 | 2.21 |
| 10 | Delhi | 0 | 3.73 |
| 11 | Goa | 0 | 3.15 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 0.18 | 7.41 |
| 13 | Haryana | 0.33 | 4.49 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 0.12 | 8.52 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.12 | 6.99 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 0.57 | 6.13 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 0.18 | 9.03 |
| 18 | Kerala | 0.3 | 4.20 |
| 19 | Lakshadweep | 0 | 3.60 |
| 20 | Madhya Pradesh | 0.88 | 5.83 |
| 21 | Maharashtra | 1.06 | 5.43 |
| 22 | Manipur | 0.32 | 17.74 |
| 23 | Meghalaya | 1.89 | 18.57 |
| 24 | Mizoram | 3.93 | 17.82 |
| 25 | Nagaland | 2.54 | 8.30 |
| 26 | Odisha | 0.18 | 15.19 |
| 27 | Puducherry | 0 | 1.22 |
| 28 | Punjab | 0.12 | 2.99 |
| 29 | Rajasthan | 0.11 | 5.41 |
| 30 | Sikkim | 0.15 | 12.02 |
| 31 | Tamil Nadu | 0.48 | 4.25 |
| 32 | Telangana | 0.17 | 6.44 |
| 33 | Tripura | 0.27 | 15.85 |
| 34 | Uttar Pradesh | 0.16 | 3.94 |
| 35 | Uttarakhand | 3.46 | 12.72 |
| 36 | West Bengal | 0.09 | 15.31 |
| | All India | 0.67 | 7.73 |

Source: UDISE, 2016-17(Provisional)