

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1094
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2018**

Lack of Amenities in Schools

†1094 **SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:**
 SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:
 SHIR A.T. NANA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to Right to Education Forum, the provisions of law have been completely implemented only in 9.08 per cent schools, 10 percent schools have only one teacher, half of the schools lack safe drinking water and separate toilets for girls and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that after introduction of the Right to Education Act more than two lakh Government schools have been closed during the last few years due to decrease in the number of students;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is searching ways for privatization of public school system;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the concrete steps taken by the Government for complete implementation of the Right to Education Act, 2009 especially in Maharashtra?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) : A report on 'Status of Implementation of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 (2016-17)' has been released by the Right to Education Forum, a non-governmental organization. The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development was not associated with this Report.

As per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2016-17, the number of Government schools at elementary level has increased from 10.48 lakh in 2009-10 to 10.73 lakh in 2016-17 and 98.67% of Government Schools have drinking water facilities. With the construction/reconstruction of 4,17,796 toilets in 2,61,400 government elementary and secondary schools within one year upto 15.08.2015 under Swachh Vidyalaya initiative, all Government schools were provided access to gender segregated toilets for girls and boys. Further, RTE Act 2009, in its Schedule, lays down the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) norms for primary and upper primary schools at

30:1 and 35:1 respectively. As per UDISE 2016-17, the PTR at national level for primary and upper primary schools is 22:1 and 18:1 respectively which is better than the norms of the RTE Act 2009.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was designated as the vehicle to support States and UTs in implementing the provisions of RTE Act, 2009. Since the inception of SSA in 2001, sanction has been given for opening of 3.64 lakh new elementary schools, for construction of 3,12,747 school buildings, 18,89,689 additional classrooms, 2,40,564 drinking water facilities and 10,63,164 school toilets. States and UTs have reported opening up of 3.59 lakh new elementary schools and construction of 2,95,382 school buildings, 18,08,452 additional classrooms, 2.35 lakh drinking water facilities and 10,11,518 toilets as on 30.09.2018.

(b) & (c): Section 6 of the RTE Act mandates that the appropriate governments 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 this regard, Central rules provides for the establishment of primary schools and upper primary schools within a distance of one kilometer and three kilometer of the neighbourhood, respectively.

National Institute of Education Planning and Administration (NIEPA) has been collecting the school education data, including data on number of Government schools imparting education at elementary level. As per U-DISE – 2016-17 (provisional), there are a total of 10.73 lakh Government schools at elementary level in the country. These schools have provided access to schools to more than 97% habitations. As per Annual Work Plan & Budget 2018-19 (AWP&B) data of all States and UTs, 97.15% habitations are served at Primary Schools within a radius of 1 km, and 96.49% habitations are served by Upper Primary Schools within a radius of 3km. The remaining 3% habitations are largely remote and sparsely populated which do not qualify for opening of schools as per neighbourhood norms. All these habitations are being covered through residential schools, Hostels and provision of Transport and Escort Facility. The statement showing details on State and UT-wise number of Government schools imparting elementary education during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 is given at **Annexure**.

(d) & (e): No, Madam. The RTE Act, 2009, effective from 1st April, 2010, mandates that every child of the age of six to fourteen years shall have the right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till the completion of his or her elementary education. All 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. Section 12(1)(c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker section and disadvantage group in the neighbourhood in private unaided and specified category schools in Class-I (or preschool as the case may be) to the extent of at-least 25% of the strength of that class and providing them free and compulsory elementary education including at primary level. The

disadvantaged group of children includes street children, children without adult protection, children working in unhealthy occupations like rag-picking, begging and sex work, abysmally poor sanitary conditions, inadequate nutrition from begging, a range of psychosocial stresses, physical abuse and sexual exploitation, exposure to hard drug abuse and children in far flung rural areas. Reimbursement to State/UTs are provided based on per child cost norms notified by the State Government. Further, the State Governments are to decide the methodology, norms, categories of EWS and reimbursement norms and amount to Private unaided schools that have enrolled/admitted such children.

(f): The Government of India has taken several initiatives to facilitate the implementation of the RTE Act and to ensure universalization of quality elementary education in the country. Earlier, the provision of RTE Act, 2009 were implemented through SSA up-to 2017-18. Now, SSA along-with other two centrally sponsored schemes of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) have been subsumed under a new scheme-Samagra Shiksha, which is under implementation in the country with effect from 1st April, 2018. It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.

In order to focus on quality education, the Central RTE Rules have been amended on 20th February, 2017 to include reference on class-wise, subject-wise Learning Outcomes. The Learning Outcomes for each class in Languages (Hindi, English and Urdu), Mathematics, Environmental Studies, Science and Social Science up to the elementary stage have, accordingly, been finalized and shared with all States and UTs. These would serve as a guideline for States and UTs to ensure that all children acquire appropriate learning level.

Further, the State Government and UT Administrations are supported on several interventions to improve teaching standards, including regular in-service teachers' training, induction training for newly recruited teachers, academic support for teachers through block and cluster resource centres, Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) system to equip the teacher to measure pupil performance and provide remedial action wherever required, and teacher and school grants for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc.

Further, the RTE Act, 2009 was amended in 2017 to ensure that all teachers acquire the minimum qualifications prescribed under the Act by 31st March 2019 to reinforce the Government's emphasis on improvement of quality of elementary education. The National Institute of Open schooling (NIOS) has been entrusted to conduct this training through Open Distance Learning (ODL) mode.

The Shagun portal has been launched to create a repository of best practices from the States and UTs and to enable online monitoring of implementation of the RTE Act, 2009 through the SSA programme.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) & (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1094 FOR ANSWER ON 17.12.2018 ASKED BY SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH: SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: REGARDING LACK OF AMENITIES IN SCHOOLS.

The statement showing State/UT-wise details of government schools imparting elementary education during the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 under SSA.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Government schools		
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	A&N Islands	340	340	340
2	Andhra Pradesh	46164	44399	44697
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3382	3464	3428
4	Assam	50070	50143	50165
5	Bihar	71140	71411	71615
6	Chandigarh	113	115	116
7	Chhattisgarh	47264	44387	44421
8	D&N Haveli	275	275	275
9	Daman & Diu	94	94	94
10	Delhi	2842	2826	2789
11	Goa	916	886	865
12	Gujarat	33755	33843	33834
13	Haryana	14587	14598	14446
14	Himachal Pradesh	15355	15386	15489
15	Jammu & Kashmir	23378	23329	23348
16	Jharkhand	40603	40437	39275
17	Karnataka	45654	45556	45003
18	Kerala	4888	4573	4851
19	Lakshadweep	43	41	41
20	Madhya Pradesh	114420	114465	114326
21	Maharashtra	67382	67294	66946
22	Manipur	3302	3308	3305
23	Meghalaya	7755	7764	7785
24	Mizoram	2278	2277	2274
25	Nagaland	2259	2092	2089
26	Odisha	58573	58476	57760
27	Puducherry	428	421	414
28	Punjab	20741	20488	20524
29	Rajasthan	69947	70664	67930
30	Sikkim	868	870	874
31	Tamil Nadu	37902	38200	38299
32	Telangana	28822	28679	28977
33	Tripura	4326	4322	4320
34	Uttar Pradesh	160942	161329	161415
35	Uttarakhand	17505	17505	17514
36	West Bengal	82444	82737	82993
	Total	1080757	1076994	1072837

Source: UDISE 2016-17 (provisional)