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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2123 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH DECEMBER, 2018

Uniform Fee Structure

†2123 SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether there is any likelihood of the Union Government issuing directions to the State Governments for playing regulatory or monitoring role for regulation of fee structure in private schools; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. Section 3(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE), 2009 provides that every child in the age group of 6-14 years shall have a right to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education. Further, Section 3(2) provides that no child shall be liable to pay any kind of fee or charges or expenses which may prevent him or her from pursuing and completing elementary education. The provisions of RTE, 2009 were implemented through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) up-to 2017-18 and now these provisions are implemented through the Samagra Shiksha from 2018-19.

The Samagra Shiksha - an Integrated Scheme for School Education has been launched throughout the country as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with effect from the year 2018-19. This programme subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). 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. It envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to senior secondary levels. The States/UTs are assisted by the central government to implement the Samagra Shiksha as a programme for providing universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category gaps in education and enhancement of learning level of children at all levels of school education.

Further, education is in the Concurrent List and majority of the schools including private schools are under administrative and financial control/purview of respective State/UT Governments and it is primarily for them to take appropriate action on regulating the fee structure in schools.
