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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2202 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

Setting up Higher Secondary Schools

†2202. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY:

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

- (a) the reasons for not making any efforts by the Government in setting up higher secondary schools for providing quality education equivalent to non-government-schools in addition to setting up of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya schools despite inclusion of education in a concurrent list of the constitution;
- (b) whether the Government propose to open such schools for providing quality education at affordable rate in a country; and
- (c) if not, the details of alternative measures proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the requirement of such schools?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) launched in 2009, envisages universalizing access to secondary schools by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance (5 kilometer) of every habitation and a higher secondary schools within a reasonable distance (7-10 kilometers). When the Scheme was launched in 2009-10, it was decided to implement it in a phased manner, the first phase was designed to make good quality secondary education available to young persons in the age group of 14-15 years. However, the other components of integrated RMSA, viz Information and Communication Technology in Schools, Girls Hostels, Vocational Education and Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage catered to Higher Secondary level also.

Now, the Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education-Samagra Shiksha, subsuming three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). The Samagra Shiksha has come into effect from 1st April, 2018. The new integrated scheme envisages school education as a continuum from preschool to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels. The main objectives of the scheme are provision of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students, bridging social and gender gaps in school education, ensuring minimum standards in schooling provision, support to states in the implementation of RTE Act, 2009 and strengthening of teacher education institutions.

During the year 2018-19, under Samagra Shiksha, 44 schools have been upgraded from secondary to senior secondary and additional subject streams have been approved in 851 senior secondary schools, based on appraisal of the proposals received from the States/UTs.

The Samagra Shiksha scheme focuses on improvement of quality of education by providing support to all States/ UTs for different interventions like; in-service training of teachers and schools heads, conduct of achievement surveys at National and State level, composite school grant to every school for providing a conducive learning environment, library grants, provision of textbooks and school uniforms as per Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA), remedial teaching for academically weaker students, ICT and digital initiatives, grants for sports and physical education, School Evaluation, Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB), Performance Indicators for Teachers (PINDICS), Kala Utsav, Excursion trips for students, Twinning of Schools and Student and Teacher Exchange Programme.
