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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2293 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

Differently Abled Students

2293. SHRI V. ELUMALAI:

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

- (a) whether it is true that the Government from this academic session has also issued directions that there will be minimum 5 per cent admission in all educational bodies of children with disabilities and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that it is one of the top most priorities for the Government to make use that the rights of specially challenged people are ensured; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No, Madam. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha aims to look at education of Children with Special Needs (CwSN) in a continuum from pre-school to class XII. The scheme covers all CwSN with one or more disabilities as mentioned in the Schedule of disabilities of the Right of the Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

Section 3(2) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates that, every child with disability within the age group of 6 to 14 years has the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education.

(b) & (c):- The Scheme of Samagra Shiksha lays impetus on inclusion or mainstreaming of CwSN into the fabric of formal schooling. Inclusive education for CwSN under the Scheme emphasises on developing full potentiality of each child with a disability through equitable and quality education.

In keeping with the principle of inclusion, CwSN are provided support through specific student oriented interventions i.e. aids and appliances, teaching aids, assistive devices, identification and assessment camps, teaching and learning materials, braille books/kits, transportation allowances, escort allowances, uniforms (under RTE), stipend for girls, training of general teachers, financial assistance for special educators etc. These interventions are provided to address their educational requirements in general schools. Under Inclusive Education component of Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance for 2100918 CwSN has been approved in the year 2018-19 against which Rs. 102350.91 lakh is the estimated approved outlay.
