

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3002
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018

FUNDS FOR EKLAVYA MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

3002. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:
KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the budgetary allocation for tribal education has increased from Rs.1,635 crore in 2017-18 to Rs.1,936 crore in the current financial year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the literacy rate of STs has increased from 8.53 per cent in 1961 to 58.96 per cent in 2011; and
- (c) whether the increased funds sought by the Government from the Ministry of Finance to improve the functioning of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) was granted and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI JASWANTSINH BHABHOR)

(a): Yes, Madam. The budgetary allocation for components of Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarships, Hostels, Ashram Schools and Vocational Training Centres was increased from Rs.1635.00 crore in 2017-18 to Rs.1936.00 crore in the current financial year.

(b): It is a fact that as per Census 2011, the literacy rate of STs has increased from 8.53 per cent in 1961 to 59.00 per cent in 2011.

(c): In the context of the trend of establishing quality residential schools for the promotion of education in all areas and habitations in the country, the Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) for ST students take their place among the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas and the Kendriya Vidyalayas. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) are set up in States/UTs with grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India. The Government in budget 2018-19, has announced that in order to provide best quality education to the tribal children in their own environment by the year 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, will have an Eklavya Model Residential School. Eklavya schools will be on par with Navodaya Vidyalayas and will have special facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development. Accordingly the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sought fund allocation for establishment and running of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs). Expenditure Finance Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Expenditure has recommended enhanced funding for recurring and non-recurring expenditure. The funds would be spent on infrastructure, day-to-day running, boarding / lodging and maintenance etc of the schools. The funds would also be utilised for upgrading sports infrastructure as well.
