4571. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

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

(a) whether any initiative has been taken by the Government to regulate the operation of play schools in various parts of the country, especially in view of the increasing incidents of atrocities against young children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which these steps are helpful; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL ‘NISHANK’)

(a): Under the newly launched Scheme of School Education namely Samagra Shiksha, preschool programme is of up to 2 years duration that is for children of the age group 4-6 years. The scheme lays down guidelines for safe and secure infrastructure including sanitation facilities; developmentally appropriate curriculum, learning activities, pedagogical practices and assessment; professional development of teachers and community participation and engagement.

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has issued comprehensive guidelines in connection with the safety of school children. To regulate the operation of play schools, NCPCR has issued the regulatory guidelines for private play schools which is based on various aspects as recognition for establishing or regulating private play schools.
(b) : The Guidelines issued by NCPCR for the operation of play schools has various norms to ensure safe and child friendly infrastructure to play school children which includes staff, buildings, minimum no. of instructional hours per day, teaching learning materials, games and sports equipments, etc.

(c) : The steps to implement the norms as per the guidelines issued by NCPCR are extremely helpful to the young children. It is beneficial to protect the children from any atrocities and provide them health care facilities, sanitation, safety, security and child friendly infrastructure which are imperative to improve the quality in play schools.

(d) : Question does not arise.

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