

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-848

ANSWERED ON 12/12/2022

**EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN OF MIGRANT WORKERS AND UNDERPRIVILEGED
CHILDREN**

848. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take steps to ensure education of children of the migrant workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measure that are taken for the admission, smooth transition of such children as their parents' migration is not connected with the academic calendar; and
- (d) whether the Government has planned to build more residential schools for the underprivileged children and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d): Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools come under the purview of the respective State and UT Governments. In order to mitigate the impact of challenges thrown by the COVID-19 pandemic for migrant children and for preventing drop outs, lower enrolments and loss of learning, this department has issued guidelines dated 13.07.2020 for identification, smooth admission process and continued education of migrant children, inter-alia, requesting the States to identify and enroll all children without any procedural formalities and maintain a database of children so admitted. Further, students of residential school should also be provided temporary admission in schools nearby their homes, as they may not go back to their residential schools during COVID19.

Also, to ensure that children have access to education with quality and equity and to minimize the impact of the pandemic on school education in the country, Ministry of Education has shared guidelines dated 7th January, 2021 with all States which, among others, include identification of out of school children from age 6-18 years, enrolment drives and awareness generation, student support while schools are closed, continued Education for children with Special Needs (CWSN), student support on school reopening and Teacher capacity building.

This Department has also developed an online module for compiling the data of Out of School Children (OoSC) identified by each State/UT and their mapping with Special Training Centres (STC) on the PRABANDH Portal (<http://samagrashiksha.in>). The concerned State/UT validates the child wise information of the identified OoSC and STC uploaded by the concerned Block Resource Centre of the State for monitoring the progress of mainstreaming of OoSC.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school. Under RTE Act special training is also provided for OoSC to enable their mainstreaming in a school.

In order to ensure universal enrolment and schooling facilities in areas which are sparsely populated with low density of population (mostly tribal areas) where opening of schools may not be viable and for children in urban areas who are in need of care and protection, MoE under Centrally Sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha provides financial assistance for opening and running of Residential Schools, and Hostels in hilly terrain, small and sparsely populated areas for children without adult protection who are in need of shelter and care, in addition to the provision of regular schools. The residential schools/hostels funded under Samagra Shiksha have been named as "Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose residential schools/hostels".

In addition, to reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) which are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL) have been sanctioned in Educationally Backward Blocks.
