

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.116**  
**ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023**

**EDUCATION OF CHILDREN HAVING NEURO-DISORDER**

\*116. DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:  
DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to support children with neuro-disorders like ASD and ADHD in obtaining a good education and also details of plans to enhance their education;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that there is lack of awareness of these disorders which can lead to neglecting a child's needs;
- (c) if so, the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government organizes campaigns to spread awareness about these disorders and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to launch any comprehensive policy to ensure mental well being of students in the schools and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor counselors in the Government and private schools in the country and if so, the current status thereof; and
- (g) whether it is mandatory for the Public and Private educational institutes to appoint counselor for ensuring the mental well being of the enrolled students and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION**  
**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (G) OF THE LOK SABHA ADMITTED STARRED QUESTION NO. 116 FOR REPLY ON 11.12.2023 ASKED BY HON'BLE MP DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY AND HON'BLE MP DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI REGARDING 'EDUCATION OF CHILDREN HAVING NEURO-DISORDER'.**

(a) to (g) Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. State and UT Governments are the appropriate Governments under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha launched in 2018-19, has dedicated Inclusive Education component for the education of Children with Special Needs (IE for CwSN) covering all CwSN with one or more disabilities as mentioned in the schedule of disabilities of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 including children with neuro-disorders like cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorder and disability caused due to chronic neurological conditions. It aims to look at education of CwSN in a continuum from Pre-Primary to Class XII studying in Government, Government-aided and local body schools.

Through this component, CwSN are provided support via specific student oriented interventions such as identification and assessment camps, provision of aids, appliances and assistive devices, transportation, scribe and escort allowance support, Braille books and large print books for children with visual impairment, stipend for girls with special needs and teaching-learning materials etc. in order to appropriately address their unique educational requirements in general schools. Capacity building of general teachers and special educators on meeting learning needs to provide quality education to children with disabilities and improve their learning outcomes, are also covered. Further, individualized support is also provided through therapeutic interventions at the block level. There is also provision for Home Based Education for children with severe multiple disabilities etc. in order to appropriately address the unique educational requirements of CWSN in inclusive schools.

The good education, particularly for children with neuro-disorders like ASD and ADHD starts with the screening at the school, which in turn may lead to identification and certification of the disability making them eligible for the provisions under inclusive education component of Samagra Shiksha to support their learning in the nearby inclusive school. The screening of

students with special needs including children with ASD and SLD is currently being done through the PRASHAST App.

NCERT is conducting a live interaction series on PMeVIDYA DTH TV Channels, titled, “Teaching Learning Interventions for Inclusive Classrooms”. Each episode is of half hour duration, focusing on promoting inclusive pedagogy practices, by considering one class, one subject and one-chapter from textbooks, with mandatory ISL interpreter. An archive of 632 sessions available on NCERT official youtube channel.

(<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUgLcpnv1YidgxeXsFZH045t8584x4Asx>).

According to Central Board of Secondary Education’s (CBSE) affiliation bye-laws and being sensitive to the needs of disabled students, CBSE provides several exemptions/concessions to CWSN as defined in The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act – 2016 such as issuing authority of Medical Certificate, facility of Scribe and compensatory time, appointment of Scribe and related instructions, fee and special exemptions for class X like exemption from third language, flexibility in choosing subjects, alternate questions /Separate Question and special exemptions for class XII like flexibility in choosing subjects, separate question paper and questions in lieu of practical component.

According to section 2.4.12 of Affiliation Bye-laws of CBSE, every Secondary and Senior Secondary school shall appoint a person on full time basis for performing the duties of Counsellor and Wellness Teacher.

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