

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1346
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

EDUCATION COMMISSION

**†1346 SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:**

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

- (a) whether the proposal for school premises/buildings were made in the report of Education Commission first time in 1964-66;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has been covered in the Programme of Action (PoA), 1992 of National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it has been implemented; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether any responsibility has been fixed in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a)& (b): The Report of the Education Commission 1964-66 had made several recommendations regarding school buildings which inter alia included steps to clear the backlog of unconstructed school buildings as well as to provide additional buildings for new enrolment; increased allocations in the Central and State budgets for construction of school buildings and community resources mobilisation on the basis of equalization; loans and grants-in-aid on a liberal basis to private schools for the construction of buildings; putting into practice norms and guidelines already available for spacing and planning of school buildings; acceptance of well-designed and constructed *kachcha* structures as part of the school system; to encourage local initiative and contribution in putting up school buildings in rural areas to accelerate provision of school buildings and to utilise local communities or village Panchayats and in urban areas, municipalities and corporations for construction activities, etc.

(c)&(d) In the Programme of Action (PoA), 1992 of National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, the recommendations inter-alia included to ensure architectural

adjustment needed at the construction stage for access of children with disability in school buildings; to open new schools, adding rooms to the existing school buildings; to make available additional resources under external assistance for educational reconstruction, such as opening new schools, construction of school buildings, etc.; to adapt low cost and locally available designs relevant to the local conditions for school buildings; to mobilise resources for construction of school buildings including Headmaster-cum-office room and toilet facilities, etc.

(e) & (f) Programme for construction of school buildings are executed keeping in view the local environment as well as the requirement of the students. Improvement of existing structures and to retrofit the same for easy accessibility of the students with disabilities is done on priority basis. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 norms provide for an all-weather building in elementary schools including those in rural areas. The school building should, inter-alia, consist of at least one classroom for every teacher and an office-cum-store-cum-Head Teacher's room, barrier free access, separate toilets for boys and girls, safe and adequate drinking water facility to all children and playground. Sections 8 and 9 of the RTE Act, 2009 lays down the duties of appropriate Government and local authority to inter-alia provide infrastructure including school building, teaching staff and learning equipment.

The Government has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education – Samagra Shiksha, which focuses inter-alia on improvement in school infrastructure and quality of education in all States and Union Territories including in rural areas, by providing support for various interventions like upgradation of schools, strengthening of infrastructure of existing schools etc.

Under erstwhile Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan till 2017-18 and Samagra Shiksha effective from 2018-19, construction of 3.12 lakh school buildings, 18.88 lakh additional classrooms, provision of 2.45 lakh drinking water facility, construction of 4.08 lakh Boys' toilets, 5.29 lakh girls' toilets and 1.49 lakh toilets for Children with Special Needs (CwSN), 2.79 lakh ramps with handrail and internal electrification of 2.28 lakh schools have been sanctioned to States and UTs for elementary schools, out of which States and UTs have reported construction of 2.97 lakh school buildings, 18.19 lakh additional classrooms, provision of 2.34 lakh drinking water facility, construction of 3.83 lakh Boys' toilets, 5.14 lakh separate girls' toilets, 1.25 lakh CwSN toilets, 2.48 lakh ramps with handrail and internal electrification of 1.96 lakh schools, till 30.06.2019.

Under erstwhile Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) till 2017-18 and Samagra Shiksha effective from 2018-19, 12,837 new secondary schools, and 55,562 additional classrooms, 66,286 toilets and 12,218 drinking water facilities have been sanctioned in secondary schools, out of which States and UTs have reported construction of 9,278 new schools and 40,262 additional classrooms, 46,280 toilets and provision of drinking water facility in 10,100 secondary schools, till 30.06.2019.