

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2241
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019

Education for Differently Abled Students

‡2241. SHRI ASASUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the report of “State of the Education Report for India 2019 the children with disabilities” released recently reveal that 72% of the children between at age group 0-5 years never got childhood education while 61% of such children between age group of 5-19 years attended any educational institutions;
- (b) if so, the other points pin-pointed in the report in regard to education of disabled children;
- (c) whether in spite of taking various efforts and amending the Children with Disabilities Act, the education level among these children is very low; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The UNESCO State of Education Report for India 2019 covers the effort undertaken to protect the right to education of children with special needs (CWSN) in the country. This report aims to provide comprehensive information on the current state of education for CWSN. The report documents children below the age of 18 years. However, there is reporting of information in regard to children of 19 years of age as a cohort of 10-19 years. The report states that over two percent of children between 10 and 19 years live with disabilities, and this age group forms the largest cohort. There are 22, 55,063 CWSN enrolled in schools as per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE), 2017-18.

(d) : The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha aims to look at education of Children with Special Needs (CwSN) in a continuum from pre-school to class XII. The scheme covers 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.

Section 3(2) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates that, every child with disability within the age group of 6 to 14 years has the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education.

The Scheme of Samagra Shiksha lays impetus on inclusion or mainstreaming of CwSN into the fabric of formal schooling. Inclusive education for CwSN under the Scheme emphasises on developing full potentiality of each child with a disability through equitable and quality education.

In keeping with the principle of inclusion, CwSN are provided support through specific student oriented interventions i.e. aids and appliances, teaching aids, assistive devices, identification and assessment camps, teaching and learning materials, braille books/kits, transportation allowances, escort allowances, uniforms (under RTE), stipend for girls, training of general teachers, financial assistance for special educators, etc. These interventions are provided to address their educational requirements in general schools.
