

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4751
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2020**

Schools in Rural Areas

4751. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:

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

- (a) the rural coverage of schools by the Government in the country during the last three years along with the goals set;
- (b) whether the Government has any plans of setting up schools at every 5 kilometres radius in the rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): 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. In pursuance of Section 6 of the Act, the Central RTE Rules has notified the area or limits of neighbourhood as one kilometre, within which a primary school and 3 kilometre within which an upper primary school, has to be established. The States have notified area or limits of their neighbourhood norms in their state RTE Rules, factoring in their State specific condition, for opening of schools.

Further,centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme for School Education, namely Samagra Shiksha, aims to provide universal access to secondary school within a distance of 5 Km of a habitation by providing support to States and UTs for establishment of new schools by up-gradation of upper primary school to secondary schools. As reported by States/UTs in their respective Annual Work Plan, the habitations covered in Primary, Upper Primary and Secondary level during the last three years is as under:

Year	Primary	Upper Primary	Secondary
2017-18	97.17%	96.71%	87.50%
2018-19	97.15%	96.49%	88.24%
2019-20	97.27%	96.82%	91.49%
