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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2482 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

Budget Private School

2482. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that budget private schools in the country are the worst affected sector in the Covid-19 pandemic period and if so, details thereof including the period of their closure in the pandemic period, till date;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that such schools are on the verge of closure as 95% of budget private schools are in rented buildings and schools managements are unable to pay the rent and salaries to their staff, EMIs and maintenance expenditure due to non collection of fees and if so details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal to include such schools in Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises scheme or similar schemes so that these schools can avail loans on Government guarantees and if so details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken a decision in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (e):Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and schools, other than those owned / funded by Central Government, are under the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Thus, the matter relating to fees and its components in schools are regulated in terms of Rules and Instructions of the State Government concerned.

The Right of Children to Free and compulsory Education 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. Section 12(1) (c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood schools in Class I (or earlier) to the extent of at least 25 percent of the strength of that class.

For implementation of Section 12(1) (c) of the RTE Act, the respective State and UT Government which is the appropriate government under the RTE Act, are required to notify the disadvantaged groups and weaker sections, notify per child cost and start admissions in private un-aided schools as per the procedure laid down by the concerned State and UT Government.

The Central Government has been supporting States and UTs for implementation of various provisions of the Act including expenditure incurred towards reimbursement to private schools for admissions of children under Section 12(1) (c) from 2014-15.

Schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) are governed by the acts and regulations of their respective State / UTs Governments. School affiliated to CBSE, thus, are expected to implement instructions regarding fee collection etc., issued by their respective State/ UTs Government.

As per the extant guidelines of Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS), new and existing Micro and Small Enterprises engaged in manufacturing, service or retail trade activity excluding Educational Institutions, Agriculture, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Training Institutions, etc., are eligible under Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS) of Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE). Hence, private schools are not eligible to be covered under CGS at present.
