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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4003 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022

Role of NGOs/Social Organisations Towards Education

4003. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government agrees with the view that Non--Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other social organizations should reach out to schools and start educating students about good touch and bad touch so that seniors and relatives do not exploit them;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): To create an understanding of good touch and bad touch among children, the Ministry of Women and Child Development commissioned a short animated film "KOMAL" on good touch and bad touch. This film has been circulated to all States and UTs for sensitization of children and institutions on the subject. The film is accessible on Youtube in English, Hindi and regional languages. It has also been uploaded on the website of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Academics and National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education has developed Guidelines on School Safety and Security of children studying in Government, Government-aided and Private Schools. The guidelines are advisory in nature and have been circulated to all States/UTs/autonomous bodies of DoSEL and stakeholder ministries. These guidelines inter-alia includes suggestive approach to integrating learning about school safety in the education of children wherein there is provision of safety inspection as teachinglearning activity/group activity in a classroom for older children which includes socioemotional safety. Further, these guidelines also have the provisions of "Periodic Safety inspection of school" under which the School/School Management have been advised to arrange to carry out thorough inspection of the school at least once in a quarter, during school hours. This quarterly inspection of schools, inter-alia, ensures compliance of the psychosocial safety and support, using the comprehensive checklist given in the guidelines, which includes points related to orientation of students on personal safety, e.g., the difference between 'safe touch' and 'unsafe touch'.

Under National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA), a nation-wide integrated teacher training program for teachers under Samagra Shiksha, teachers have been oriented on counselling, provisions of POCSO Act, Juvenile Justice Act, School Safety guidelines, helpline and emergency numbers, drop-box for complaints, etc. Further, teachers are also trained to develop and understand about pedagogical processes to be adopted in order to develop healthy attitudes and behaviours among children.
