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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1247 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th JULY 2016

Implementation of Right to Education Act

1247. SHRI P. KUMAR:

SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

SHRI D.K. SURESH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act has been tardy and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to conduct a review of the implementation of the Right to Education Act in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the targets achieved so far and the measures taken/proposed to be taken for the effective implementation of the Right to Education Act in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

- (a): No, Madam.
- (b): No, Madam.
- (c): The total enrolment in elementary schools has risen from 18.79 crore children in 2009-10 to 19.76 crore children in 2014-15. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is 98.85% for boys and 101.43% for girls, which indicates almost universal enrolment at primary level. The GER at upper primary level is 87.71% for boys and 95.29% for girls. Number of Out of School children in 2005 was 134.6 lakh which has come down to 81.51 lakh in 2009 and 60.64 lakh in 2014. The Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) has improved from 32 in 2009-10 to 25 in 2014-15.

Apart from the financial assistance provided to State Governments, various initiatives have been taken up by the Central Government to meet the objectives of SSA scheme in accordance with the legal framework of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Some of these are:-

- (i) Under Swachh Vidyalaya initiative, 4,17,796 toilets were constructed in 2,61,400 elementary and secondary government schools in a period of one year from 15.8.2014 to 15.8.2015, thus ensuring that every government school has separate functional toilets for girls and boys. The initiative was made successful in partnership with all State Governments, 64 Public Sector Undertakings, and 12 Private Corporates. With this, about 13.58 crore children in 11.08 lakh government schools have access to gender segregated toilets.
- (ii) Since the inception of SSA in 2001 till 31.3.2016, 3.64 lakh new elementary schools, construction of 3.11 lakh school buildings, and 18.61 lakh additional classrooms, 2.38 lakh drinking water facilities, 10.14 lakh school toilets and 19.48 lakh teacher posts have been sanctioned to States and UTs.
- (iii) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) have been opened in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) where the female rural literacy is below the national average to provide for residential upper primary schools for girls. 3609 KGBVs have been sanctioned till 31.3.2016, out of which 3599 KGBVs are operational in the country enrolling 3.64 lakh girls.
- (iv) The number of children with special needs that have been brought into the fold of education (through enrolment in formal schools, school readiness programme and through home-based education) is 23.18 lakh as per the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2014-15.
- (v) The State Governments and UT Administrations are supported on several interventions to improve teaching standards, including regular in-service teachers' training, induction training for newly recruited teachers, training of all untrained teachers to acquire professional qualifications through Open Distance Learning (ODL) mode, recruitment of additional teachers for improving pupil-teacher ratios, academic support for teachers through block and cluster resource centres, continuous and comprehensive evaluation system to equip the teacher to measure pupil performance and provide remedial action wherever required, and teacher and school grants for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc.

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