

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:222  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2001  
EXPANSION OF DPEP  
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB;RAJO SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposals from various State Governments regarding the expansion of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) in their respective States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved; and
- (d) the proposals for the expansion of DPEP in each State for the next three years ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 222 ASKED SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB AND SHRI RAJO SINGH FOR ANSWER ON 13.3.2001 REGARDING 'EXPANSION OF DPEP'.

Out of the States not yet covered under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), requests were received from the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim and Tripura for introduction of the programme in these States. Requests were also received from some States already covered under the programme, namely, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for further expansion of the programme in additional districts.

The programme which was initially launched in 42 selected educationally backward districts of 7 States in 1994, has already been expanded to cover 248 districts of 18 States namely Assam, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Chattishgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. Proposals for expansion of DPEP in 9 districts of Rajasthan, 8 districts of Orissa and 6 districts of Gujarat are in the pipeline at various stages of approval.

An integrated national education programme namely the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has now been launched for universalising elementary education. The SSA is to provide useful and relevant elementary education for all children in 6 to 14 years of age by 2010. All existing schemes on elementary education including DPEP will converge under the SSA framework. There will be no further expansion of DPEP beyond projects under implementation or in the pipeline. The SSA will cover all districts in the country by March, 2002 and pre-project activities have already been sanctioned for over 100 districts.