

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:128
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003
EDUCATION FOR ALL PROGRAMME
DHANI RAM SHANDIL;UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

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

- (a) whether the Government is unable to meet the target in the field of education particularly in education for all programme;
- (b) if so, whether the involvement of foreign donors are required for achieving the target;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has called on foreign donors, international agencies and developed countries to meet their commitments without imposing any conditions under UNESCO's education for all programme as reported in the 'Pioneer' dated 13th November, 2003;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has applied to the World Bank for funds for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA); and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the amount of funds sought and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINIS OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.128 BY PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU AND DR. (COL. RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL REGARDING EDUCATION FOR ALL PROGRAMME FOR REPLY ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2003.

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Under the normal collaborative relationship of the Government of India and International funding agencies, three funding agencies namely World Bank, Department of International Development of U.K. and European Commission have shown their interest in funding of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) which is India's flagship programme for meeting the Education for All goals. The Ministry's stand is that any foreign proposal in this regard will be considered only without any conditionalities.

India had raised the issue of the need for donor countries to fulfil their commitments of achieving Official Development Assistance (ODA) of 0.7% of GNP, at various forums, including the meeting of the High Level Group on EFA held in New Delhi in November, 2003. This received wide support from many other countries and was reflected in the communiqué issued at the end of this Meeting of the High Level Group. The donor countries and international agencies were called upon to redress the decline of total ODA that remains below the level of the early 90s, through strengthening the Fast Track and Analytic Fast Track initiatives, increasing ODA to at least the levels agreed upon in Monterrey and to ensure that a higher percentage thereof is allocated to basic education.