GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:892
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007
STATUS OF CHILDREN EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether no change has taken place in the percentage of school going children in the age of 6-14 years group in the country in the last two years as revealed in the Annual Status Report on the status of education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to bring in the percentage of the young children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the expenditure status of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) till February 15, 2007, State-wise;
- (f) whether the status of pending utilisation of certificate under SSA is a problem for allocation of instalments;
- (g) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (h) whether the Government has discussed this issue with Finance Ministry to be lenient on crucial issue of primary education;
- (i) if so, whether the Government has formulated any policy for sending the children in the school who have deprived of primary education; and
- (j) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) & (j): The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) is a national programme implemented with the objective of universalization of elementary education. An independent national survey conducted by SRI-IMRB in July-October 2005 estimated 1.34 crore children out of school in the 6-14 age group. As per State Government reports, this number has come down to 70 lakh in March/April 2006. State wise details are given in Annexure-I. The SSA is implementing context-specific strategies to address the educational needs of the children who are still out of school.

There was a problem of sanction of funds under SSA in August-September 2006 due to certain orders of the Ministry of Finance but that was resolved by October 2006. The position of sanction of funds to States/UTs under SSA upto 19.2.07 is at Annexure-II.