

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5010

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008

EXTENSION OF TARGET UNDER SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

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

- (a) whether the flagship programme for providing universal elementary education in the country is running far behind the stipulated schedule;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has extended the target by the year of 2011-12;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the strategy chalked out and efforts being made by the Government to achieve the target by 2011-12;
- (f) the number of children covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan till date, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure proper utilization of the funds released under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

Answer

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

(a) to (g): The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme is being implemented in all districts of the country to achieve the goal of universalisation of elementary education (UEE) in a time bound manner, in mission mode. Consequently, the number of out of school children, which was 320 lakh in 2001-02, has come down to 75.97 lakh in 2007-08, as per State reports. A statement showing number of out of school children as reported by States upto March 2007 is at annexure.

A rigorous system of monitoring of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been put in place which includes, inter alia, monthly and quarterly progress reports and review meetings, furnishing of annual elementary school statistics, field monitoring by 41 independent monitoring institutions and six monthly independent reviews by experts on the progress of the programme. In addition rigorous financial audits and concurrent financial reviews are done in the State SSA programmes.