

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6565
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
NORMS FOR OPENING OF KGBV
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms adopted by the Government for opening Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) in the country;
- (b) the manner in which these Vidyalayas are likely to promote girls education in the country; and
- (c) the other measures undertaken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) component of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities in educationally backward blocks (EBBs) where female rural literacy is below the national average (46.13%) and gender gap in literacy is above the national average (21.67%) as per Census 2001. The criteria of eligible blocks has been revised with effect from 1st April, 2008 to include:

EBBs with rural female literacy below 30%; and

Town and cities having minority concentration (as per the list identified by the Ministry of Minority Affairs) with female literacy rate below the national average (53.67%: Census 2001).

(b) The main objective of the scheme is to reduce gender gap in enrolment and provide quality education to girls. Minimum 75% of the enrolment is reserved for girls from SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and for the remaining 25%, priority is accorded to girls from families below the poverty line.

(c) SSA provides financial support inter-alia for free textbooks to all girls upto Class VIII, organization of back to school camps for out of school girls and bridge courses for older girls. The National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) component of SSA also reaches out to girls from marginalized social groups in EBBs. At secondary level, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) envisages several measures for girls education, including inter-alia, appointment of female teachers. The scheme of Girls Hostel at secondary stage in EBBs facilitates girls to pursue secondary education.