

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1619
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
EDUCATION TO ALL
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the budget affordable schools, catering to the under privileged section of the society, would fall under the purview of the Right to Education Act, 2009;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to make the education affordable and accessible for all in the lower income group?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been enacted to provide for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. Section 2(n) of the RTE Act defines school as any recognized school imparting elementary education and includes- (i) a school established, owned or controlled by the appropriate Government or a local authority; (ii) an aided school receiving aid or grants to meet whole or part of its expenses from the appropriate Government or the local authority; (iii) a school belonging to specified category; and (iv) an unaided school not receiving any kind of aid or grants to meet its expenses from the appropriate Government or the local authority. The Government is also implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day-Meal and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan programmes to make education affordable and accessible for all.