

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4806  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010  
STREAMLINING EDUCATION  
Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering a proposal for streamlining of the education set up for children between 4-6 years of age in the country;
- (b) if so, whether currently, no such mechanism exists at a national level for children of this age, who are classified in the pre-school category;
- (c) whether after the implementation of the Right to Education Act, the Government has decided to focus on pre-school children;
- (d) whether the formation of the new policy has been proposed in an effort to implement HRD's formula for making education less stressful experience for children, so that the attempt will be to shield children from overburden and stress at the pre-school level; and
- (e) if so, the time by which a final decision for implementation of the scheme is likely to be considered?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b): Under the Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) Scheme, as on date 3,46,21,548 children between the age group of 3-6 years are being provided pre-school education in the Anganwadi Centres. Improving pre-school education under ICDS is an ongoing process.
- (c) to (e): Section 11 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides that with a view to prepare children above the age of three years for elementary education and to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years, the appropriate Government may make necessary arrangement for providing free pre- school education for such children. The RTE Act has come into force with effect from 1st April, 2010.