

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:251
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
VILLAGE EDUCATION COMMITTEES
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether Village Education Committees (VECs) have been constituted all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including their role in improving rural primary education;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch awareness campaigns to enhance public participation through VECs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b): Village/school level committees have been constituted under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in all States/UTs. However, the nomenclature of the committees varies from State to State; they are known as Village Education Committee (VEC), School Development and Management Committee (SDMC)/ School Monitoring Committee (SMC)/ Vidyalaya Shiksha Samiti (VSS), Vidyalaya Kalyan Samiti (VKS), Jan Bhagidari and Vikas Samiti (JBVS), etc in different States. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been operationalised with effect from 1st April 2010. The RTE Act, 2009 provides for the constitution of School Management Committees (SMC) consisting of elected representatives of the local authority, parents or guardians of children admitted in schools and teachers. The Act also provides that at least three-fourth of members of SMCs shall be parents or guardians with proportionate representation to parents and guardians of children belong to disadvantaged group and weaker section and fifty per cent of the members of SMCs shall be women. Under the RTE Act, 2009 the SMCs have been assigned the function of monitoring the working of the school, preparing and recommending the school development plan and monitoring the utilization of the grants received from the appropriate Government or local authority or any other source.

(c) & (d): The SSA norms for Community Mobilization have recently been revised to allocate up to 0.5% of the district outlay under SSA towards Community Mobilization and campaigns. In addition, the norms for training of village/school level committee members have been revised to bring them at par with the norms for teacher training. A sum of Rs 237 crores has been provided in the Annual Work Plans and Budget (AWP&B) of different States towards community training for the year 2010-11.