

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2465
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
IMPROVEMENT IN CONDITION OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the successful implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, is contingent upon improvement in the condition of the Government Schools;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (c) the details of the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to improve the condition of the Government Schools and equip them with all kinds of facilities; and
- (d) the assistance, financial or otherwise, given to each State/U.T. for the purpose?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 lays down norms and standards applicable to all schools, including norms for the(i) number of teachers, (ii) building, (iii) minimum number of working days/ instructional hours in an academic year, (iv) minimum number of working hours per week for the teacher, (v) teaching learning equipment,(vi) library, (vii) play material, games and sports equipment. The Government is also implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme for universalising elementary education, which includes provisions for universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category gaps in education and enhancement of learning levels of children. SSA provides for a variety of interventions, including inter alia, opening of new schools, construction of schools and additional classrooms, toilets and drinking water, provisioning for teachers, periodic teacher training and academic resource support, textbooks and support for learning achievement.

The Government is committed to implementation of the RTE Act, and has revised the SSA norms to align them with the provisions of the RTE Act. Government has also revised the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and the States from the previously applicable sliding scale of 65:35 ratio in the first two years of the 11th Plan, 60:40 in the third year, 55:45 in the fourth year, and 50:50 thereafter to a fund sharing pattern in the 65:35 ratio for the duration of the next five years. For the year 2010-11 the Central budget support of Rs. 15,000 crore has been increased to Rs. 19,000 crore for implementation of the combined RTE-SSA programme. A statement showing details of Central funds sanctioned to States/ Union Territories in 2010-11 as on 12.11.2010 is at annexure.