

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4747
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
EDUCATION TO PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether physically challenged children are deprived of quality education in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any policy in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the State-wise details of the funds and assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years till date?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992) envisages measures for integrating children with physical and mental disabilities with the general community as equal partners to prepare them for normal growth and development and to enable them to face life with courage and confidence.

The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protections of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 makes it a statutory responsibility for Central, State and local Governments to provide free education in an appropriate environment for all children with disabilities up to the age of 18. The Act calls upon appropriate governments and local authorities to promote the integration of students with disabilities in normal schools. In addition, the Act stipulates that the appropriate Governments and the local authorities, inter alia, shall make schemes for varieties of educational initiatives and strategies. Financial assistance is provided under the scheme "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" for children with disabilities at elementary level, and under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of "Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)" for education of children with disabilities at the secondary level.

The interventions under SSA for inclusive education include identification, functional and formal assessment, appropriate educational placement, preparation of individualized educational plan, provision of aids and appliances, teacher training, resource support, removal of architectural barriers, research, monitoring and evaluation and a special focus on girls with special needs.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of IEDSS aims to provide all students with disabilities completing eight years of elementary schooling an opportunity to complete four years of secondary schooling (Classes IX to XII) in an inclusive and enabling environment.

(e): Does not arise.

(f): The State-wise details of the funds provided under the inclusive education component of SSA and under IEDSS are at ANNEXURES-I & II respectively.