GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:368 ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011 QUALITY OF EDUCATION

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

- (a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has conducted a national learning survey to assess the level of achievement of children in Government and Government- aided schools in various subjects;
- (b) if so, the salient features and the outcome of the survey;
- (c) whether the infrastructure and quality of teaching in the above schools especially in rural areas are not upto the desired level; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the infrastructure and quality of teaching in above schools?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts National Learners' Achievement Survey for classes III, V and VIII periodically. Till now, two rounds of Achievement Surveys have been conducted. A comparative table of the progress in respect of the two rounds is given below:

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Subject Class III Class V Class VIII
 Round Round Round Round Round
        II I II I
                       ΙI
Mathematics 58.25% 61.89% 46.51% 48.46% 39.17% 42.71%
           63.12% 67.84% 58.57% 60.31% 53.86% 56.57%
Language
                        50.30% 52.19% NA NA
EVS
             NA NA
             NA NA NA NA
                           41.30% 42.73%
Science
Social
             NA NA NA NA
                             46.19% 48.03%
Science
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NA: Not applicable.

(c) & (d): Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides support to improve school infrastructure and quality. Under SSA, 1,62,308 primary schools and 1,47,419 upper primary schools have been opened, and buildings for 1,37,138 primary and 84,894 upper primary schools have been constructed up to 30.09.2010. In addition, 9,66,390 additional classrooms, 2,91,172 toilets have been constructed, and drinking water facility has been provided in 1,87,789 schools. A total of 14.1 lakh teacher posts have been sanctioned since inception of the program, against which 11.13 lakh teachers have been recruited.

SSA norms have been revised to correspond with the provisions of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, which became operative with effect from 1st April, 2010. The fund sharing pattern between the Central and State governments which was in the sliding scale has been revised in the 65:35 ratio. The fund sharing pattern in respect of the States in the North East Region will continue in the 90:10 ratio between the Central and the State governments. The central allocation for RTE-SSA in 2010-11 was enhanced from `15,000/- crore to `19,000/- crore.