

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:291

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011

RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai; Sampath Shri Anirudhan

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

- (a) the aims and objectives of launching Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan in various States;
- (b) whether the enrolment of students in secondary education has increased after the launch of this scheme;
- (c) if so, the extent thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the number of new secondary schools opened in each State/UT since the inception of the Abhiyan;
- (e) whether the Planning Commission in its mid-term appraisal has pointed out that the scheme creates inequality in distribution of funds to States and does not include grant-in-aid schools; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 291 FOR ANSWER ON 16.03.2011 REGARDING "RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHA ABHIYAN" ASKED BY ADV. A. SAMPATH AND DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

(a) The objective of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is to universalise access to secondary education and improve its quality, while ensuring equity. The scheme envisages enhancing the enrollment ratio from 52.26% in 2005-06 to 75% for classes IX-X within 5 years by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance of every habitation, improving quality of education imparted at secondary level by making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, removal of gender, socio-economic, geographical and disability barriers, universal access to secondary level education by 2017, and universal retention by 2020.

(b) & (c) RMSA was launched in March, 2009 and the implementation started in the financial year 2009-10. This Ministry compiles "Statistics of School Education" on annual basis, and the compilation includes State-wise enrolment data in the school education stage. The latest such compilation pertains to 2008-09 and hence the enrolment data for 2009-10 and 2010-11 are not available to assess the impact of RMSA on enrolment. However, as per the tentative figures compiled for 22 States under SEMIS (Secondary Education Management and Information System) for the year 2009-10, there has been a growth of 6.7% in enrolment in classes IX and X over the figures for 2008-09.

(d) A total of 5768 new secondary schools have been approved under RMSA since its inception. State wise details are annexed.

(e) The Mid-term Appraisal document of the XI Plan of the Planning Commission has inter-alia, suggested a fund allocation criteria, with two-third weightage to enrolment in upper primary schools and one-third to child population of the relevant age group. The document also recommends flexibility to cover Government aided schools with infrastructure support, including library and laboratory facilities.

(f) The proposal to include Government-aided schools under the ambit of RMSA is at present at the stage of inter-Ministerial consultations. However automatic allocation of funds in the initial stage of implementation of the Scheme without linkage to performance may lead to non-optimal use of scarce resources. Similarly, as suggested by the Planning Commission, giving weightage to the related age group at the secondary level may not be desirable, as the number of children in the secondary stage would critically depend upon the completion rate of elementary stage, and not merely on the population of the whole age group.