

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:574

ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011

ADMISSION IN SCHOOLS

Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to add a year to primary schooling;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether several States keep the entry age for admission into class 1 to 5 years rather than at 6 years;
- (d) if so, whether children of these States face the double burden of heavy curriculum due to early entry into the schooling system and introduction of upper primary subjects at class V itself;
- (e) if so, whether there is any proposal to frame uniform policy for entry age for admission into class 1;and
- (f) if so, the measures taken by the Central Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the National Policy on Education 1986 (as modified in 1992), the elementary cycle of education comprises eight years of schooling from Class I to VIII. The primary cycle comprises Class I to V, and the Upper Primary cycle is from Class VI to VIII. There is no proposal to effect any structural changes in above dispensation.

(c) to (f): Yes sir, several States/Union Territories are following the entry age below 6 years for admission in Class I. States/UTs are advised to align the entry level for admission in Class I as per the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which provides for free and compulsory education for all children in the 6-14 age group.