GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1768 ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011 BASIC FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the problems of drinking water, furniture, class-rooms, security etc. in the Government run schools:
- (b) if so, the time by which the said problems are likely to be resolved;
- (c) whether any Committee has been constituted to resolve the said problems;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes Sir. With a view to improving school infrastructure and facilities at the elementary level, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for (i) new primary schools and upgradation of primary to upper primary schools which include drinking water, toilets for boys and girls, barrier free access, green fencing/boundary walls in accordance with norms prescribed under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 and (ii) additional classrooms on the basis of enrollments. Existing school buildings are provided toilets and drinking water from the Drinking Water Mission and the Total Sanitation Campaign implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development. In addition, SSA provides an annual School Maintenance Grant for upkeep of the buildings. For Government secondary schools, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) provides for additional classrooms, science laboratories, computer rooms, toilets and drinking water facilities. Improvement in school infrastructure and facilities is an on-going process.
- (c) & (d) All States and UTs have constituted their SSA Executive Committees to review/monitor and lay policy framework, not only for the facilities for school infrastructure, but for all interventions of SSA. The Executive Committee has members from various State Departments and is headed by Chief Secretary/ Educational Secretary.
- (e) The States/UTs prepare their Annual Work Plans as per SSA and RMSA norms which are submitted to MHRD for appraisal and approval. The implementation of the approved targets is reviewed regularly and States/ UTs lagging behind are advised to take remedial measures.