

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3668  
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT (HDR)  
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

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

- (a) the average number of years of education received by people of the age group of 25 and above;
- (b) whether the HDR, 2010 has indicated that average time a kid spent in school in India is 4.4 years; and
- (c) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): As per Human Development Report, 2010, the average number of years of education received by people of the age group 25 and above is 4.4. For purpose of calculating the same, average number of years of education received by people ages 25 and older in their lifetime based on education attainment levels of the population is converted into years of schooling based on theoretical durations of each level of education attended. It does not refer to average time a kid spent in school.

(c): Low educational attainments are sought to be improved with substantial expansion of access to education at all levels - Elementary, Secondary and Tertiary. Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE Act) is already in place and RTE harmonized Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is expected to ensure eight years of elementary education to all children in the age groups of 6-14. The focus is on providing quality education. With the success of SSA, the demand for secondary education has increased and a stage has already been set for universalisation of secondary education. The Government has already launched Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan to expand access to secondary education. Model School Scheme has been launched to set up, one high quality pace setting school in each Block. Besides, the reach of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas are also expanded. At tertiary level, 16 new Central Universities have been established by the Central Universities Act, 2009 besides 08 new Indian Institutes of Technology, 07 Indian Institutes of Management, 05 Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, 02 Schools of Planning and Architecture and 10 National Institutes of Technology. Scheme of setting up of Model Degree Colleges in 374 educationally backward districts has been launched. The Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under the Coordinated Action for Skill Development aims to provide 1000 new Polytechnic institutions. The XI Plan also envisages strengthening of State Universities and colleges for increasing access to higher education. This three pronged strategy with inclusive policies and programmes including Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act 2006, has paved the way to enhance average years of education significantly.