

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:125
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
DIVERSION OF FUNDS UNDER SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether complaints have been received regarding diversion of funds by States under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the defaulting States for such diversion of funds; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent diversion of funds in future under the said Scheme?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.125 FOR 13.07.2009 ASKED BY SHRI AHIR VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MAADAM REGARDING DIVERSION OF FUNDS UNDER SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

(a) to (d) The Performance Audit report on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05, submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in August 2006, indicates that an amount of Rs 53 crores can be classified as expenditure not covered under the SSA guidelines.

In addition, reports from States have indicated instances of financial irregularities. Andhra Pradesh reported an embezzlement of Rs.14.98 crores under DPEP / SSA accounts in 2006-07. An FIR was lodged and the State CID investigated the matter. The State Government suspended three accounts officials and transferred another three out of the State Project Office of SSA. In Haryana (2005-2007), 11 officials involved in financial irregularities have been proceeded against wherein services of two officials have been terminated. In Karnataka, action has been taken against 21 officials and an amount of Rs.8.58 lakhs recovered from them. In West Bengal an amount of Rs.517.80 lakh was fraudulently withdrawn by eight officials in one district, where the CID has arrested seven persons and proceedings are underway. In Gujarat (2007-08) action was taken against two officials involved in financial irregularities and Rs.15.98 lakhs recovered. Nine officials have been suspended in Rajasthan on complaints of misuse of SSA funds and other irregularities. In Himachal Pradesh FIR was lodged on a complaint of misuse of SSA funds and an amount of Rs.3.02 lakhs has been recovered.

The Government of India has directed the States/UTs to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA programmes. The States/ UTs have also been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. The Financial and Procurement Manual for SSA lays down detailed procedures on accounting, fund flow arrangements, financial reporting, internal controls, external audit and procurement procedures, etc. Concurrent financial reviews are undertaken by a professional body of auditors, and field monitoring is undertaken by Social Science Institutions.