

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2298
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011
PRIMARY EDUCATION IN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the primary education in the country especially the residential schools is not competing with the private schools and has become irreparable;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor especially in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the steps being taken to correct the situation in future?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Primary Education in the country is provided largely by Government schools (80.5%), while Government aided schools constitute 5.46% and private unaided schools constitute 14.04% of the total primary schools in the country. Government residential schools under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) are generally established to provide free education to children in sparsely populated or hilly and densely forested areas with difficult geographical terrains, where establishing regular schools may not be viable, as also for urban deprived children, homeless and street children in difficult circumstances without adult protection. SSA also provides residential facilities through the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) for girls belonging to SC, ST, OBC and BPL categories to provide them access at the upper primary stage of education.

A total of 332 residential school facilities have been provided under SSA in 2010-11 and 2011-12, of which 4 are in Andhra Pradesh. Further a total of 3598 KGBVs have been sanctioned across the country, of which 743 have been sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 recognizes the role of schools under both Government and private management and casts specific responsibilities upon them to provide free and compulsory education to children in the 6-14 age group. All schools have to adhere to the norms and standards specified in the Schedule to the RTE Act, including norms for infrastructure and facilities, teachers, teaching learning equipment, teaching days, etc.