

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3299
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011
BENEFITS OF SSA
Premdas Shri ;Punia Shri P.L.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the poor are not getting the benefit of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the country, including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the names of the said States;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints of irregularities and financial malpractices in this scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to make the said Abhiyan successful?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), multi- pronged action is taken for universalization of elementary education, with special focus on children belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section. This includes opening of primary and upper primary schools within "defined area or limits of neighbourhood", provision of residential schools, transport / escort facilities, providing free text books to all children, providing two sets of uniform to poor boys (in BPL category) and all girls, removing financial and procedural barriers to schooling, abolition of corporal punishment etc. These measures have contributed towards improvement in enrolment of students from 13.45 crore in 2008-09 to 13.56 crore in 2009-10.

(c) & (d): Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has an intensive Financial Management System which includes annual audit by Chartered Accountants empanelled with Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, concurrent financial review by Institute of Public Auditors of India (IPAI) as well as system for internal audit. SSA conducts Quarterly Review Meetings with Finance Controllers of all States/UTs for monitoring the utilization of funds. Whenever misappropriation of funds meant for SSA are reported through audit by CA firms, Accountant General (AG) of States, CAG of India and IPAI Reviews and action is taken thereon. Investigations have been made on the misappropriation of funds in West Bengal in 2004-05, Haryana in 2005-06, 2008-09 and 2009-10, Himachal Pradesh in 2005-06, Andhra Pradesh in 2006- 07 and 2010-11, Karnataka and Rajasthan in 2007-08 and Gujarat in 2009-10. Besides initiating departmental proceedings against the persons found guilty, police complaints have been filed and investigation through State CID/Vigilance Department has been conducted. The persons concerned have either been transferred, suspended or terminated and recoveries affected. In Andhra Pradesh, orders attaching the properties of the two main accused parties have been issued.

(e): Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the main implementation vehicle for the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Implementation Framework of SSA has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act. A comprehensive monitoring mechanism has been put in place to ensure smooth implementation of SSA.