

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4501
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
FREE EDUCATION TO CHILDREN
Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

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

- (a) whether many Government schools are closing every year due to inadequate number of students;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether poor children are forced to become child labour as there is no school in their locality to impart free education;and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c)&(d) No, Sir. The Government has enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 w.e.f. 1.4.2010. As per the Section 12 (1) (c) of the Act, all recognized schools imparting elementary education shall admit in class-1, to the extent of at least twenty-five percent of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighborhood and provide free and compulsory elementary education till its completion. After the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Programme viz Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) from 2009-2010, 9799 new Secondary Schools have been sanctioned. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, the main objective is to provide Universalisation of Elementary Education and free and compulsory education amongst children in the age group of 6-14 in the neighborhood schools till the completion of elementary education.