

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:297

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012

ENROLMENT RATE

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the quality of education and health of the students across the country;
- (b) whether the percentage of enrolment in schools after implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has increased in rural areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the proportion of boys and girls enrolment during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (e) whether the enrolment of girls under SSA is poor in some States including Assam;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the steps taken to improve the enrolment of children, especially girls at the elementary level?

Answer

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

(a) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been under implementation in partnership with the States since 2001-02 to universalize access and retention in elementary education, bridge gender and social category gaps in enrolment and improve the quality of education. In addition, the Government is also implementing the Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme to provide a hot cooked meal to children in Government, Local Body and Government-aided schools. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010. The RTE Act prescribes, inter alia norms and standards for Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), school infrastructure and facilities. It lays down that the curriculum and evaluation process shall be in accordance with the values enshrined in the Constitution of India, and shall take into account the all-round development of the child, build on the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, provide for learning through activities, discovery and exploration, and shall make the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety. The RTE Act, 2009 also provides for Part-Time Instructor for Health and Physical Education for Upper Primary Schools with enrolment above 100, and for play material, games and sports equipment. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 in terms of provisioning for additional teachers, classrooms and facilities in schools, as well as quality interventions. The revised SSA Framework of Implementation is on the website www.ssa.nic.in.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Human Resource Development collects information on various educational indicators from the States/UTs annually through Selected Educational Statistics (SES). Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was launched in 2001-02 and since then the enrolment of children from class I to VIII has increased from 15,77,00,000 (2001-2002) to 19,50,90,845 (2009-2010) as per the SES 2009-10.

(d) to (f) The State-wise enrollment of boys and girls at elementary level for three years from 2007-08 to 2009-10 as per SES is annexed. The enrolment of girls at the national level has improved from 9,05,35,250 (2007-08) to 9,24,17,562 (2009-10). However, some States, including Assam, have reported decline in enrolment of girls in 2009-10.

(g) Steps to improve the enrolment of the children at elementary level include, inter alia, the opening of new primary and upper primary schools, construction of school buildings, provisioning for additional class rooms and teachers, supply of free text books and uniforms, special training for out of school children to mainstream them in regular schools, residential/transport facilities for children in habitations which are too small and sparsely populated and urban deprived children, and provisioning of drinking water and separate toilets for boys and girls as per norms for intervention laid down in the SSA Framework of Implementation. Further, SSA also provides for residential facilities for girls from the marginalized sections of society through the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), as well as targeted interventions through the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) in educationally backward blocks of the country.