

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:103

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012

REVIEW OF SSA

Bheiravdanji Shri Gadhi Mukeshkumar;Verma Smt. Usha

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

- (a) the details and the outcome of the latest review of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the scheme is not being implemented properly in some States due to lack of funds and other reasons and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government for allocation of more funds and increasing coverage of the scheme to other schools in their States and if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken thereon, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has received complaints regarding non-utilisation /embezzlement of funds, supply of poor quality uniforms to students and other irregularities under this scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the action taken /being taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 103 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2012 ASKED BY SHRI GADHVI MUKESH BHAIKAVADANJI AND SHRIMATI USHA VERMA REGARDING REVIEW OF SSA

(a): The implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is reviewed twice every year by a Joint Review Mission (JRM) comprising educational experts (GOI nominees) and representatives from SSA's Development Partners, namely World Bank, Department for International Development (DFID) of United Kingdom and European Commission. The 15th JRM, which was held from 16-30 January, 2012, has noted with appreciation the efforts put in by MHRD and State governments to take SSA forward towards the execution of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act.

The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission conducted an evaluation of the SSA programme in 2010, which points to significant improvement in access and enrolment, as well as social and gender equity in enrolment. The study has also pointed out that there has been moderate improvement in the pupil teacher ratio and availability of infrastructure.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts periodic Learner Achievement Surveys. To date NCERT has completed two rounds of Learner Achievement Surveys in all subjects for classes III, V and VII/VIII. NCERT has commenced the third round of Learner Achievement Survey, and has completed the same in respect of class V.

In addition, SSA conducts six-monthly review meetings with Education Secretaries and periodic review meetings with State Project Directors to monitor progress. Field level monitoring is also undertaken by 41 Monitoring Institutes (MIs), comprising reputed institutes of social sciences and Universities/ Departments of Education.

(b) & (c): SSA interventions for universal access, retention and improvement in the quality of learning are applicable to all Government, Local Body and Government aided schools. However, interventions for infrastructure and teachers are not available for schools in the aided sector. Within the budget allocations made to the Department, the requirements of States are considered during the appraisal process of their Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B), and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) at the beginning of every financial year. The unspent balances available with the SSA State Implementation Societies from the previous year are taken into account while releasing the first instalment of funds. The second and subsequent instalments are released after ensuring that the SSA State Implementation Society has (i) received the proportionate State share from the State Government, (ii) spent at least 50% of the total funds available, and (iii) submitted Audited Statements of Accounts and Utilisation Certificates for the previous year. The 13th Finance Commission has earmarked Rs 24,068 crore for the five year period from 2010-11 to 2014-15 for elementary education to ease budgetary pressure on States/UTs.

Keeping in view the enhanced financial requirements under SSA to implement the RTE norms, and also demands from various States for enhanced allocation, the fund sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments was revised from the erstwhile fund

sharing pattern in a sliding scale during the 11th Plan to a fixed 65:35 ratio for a duration of five years from 2010-11 to 2014-15. In addition, the 13th Finance Commission has earmarked Rs 24,068 crore for the five year period of 2010-11 to 2014-15 towards elementary education.

(d) & (e): The Performance Audit Report on SSA for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05, submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in August 2006, indicated that an amount of Rs 53 crores can be classified as expenditure not covered under the SSA guidelines. The Government of India has directed the States to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA programmes. Further, reports from States have indicated instances of financial irregularities in Andhra Pradesh (2006-07 and 2010-11), Gujarat (2009-10), Haryana (2005-06, 2008-09 and 2009-10), Himachal Pradesh (2005-06), Karnataka (2007-08), Rajasthan (2007-08), Uttar Pradesh (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10), West Bengal (2004-05). Appropriate action has been initiated by the State Governments, including departmental proceedings, police complaints and investigations through the respective State CID/Vigilance Department. The persons concerned have been transferred, suspended or terminated, and recoveries effected.

The Government of India has issued strict instructions to States/UTs to recoup the inadmissible expenditure and to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. 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 a system of internal audit. Complaints received on financial irregularities are investigated by States and corrective action taken on a regular basis. Government of India has laid down a Financial & Procurement Manual in SSA to streamline financial management systems.