

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2315
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012
OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

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

- (a) whether a UNICEF report points out that half of the Indian children do not go to primary school;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the findings of this report are contradictory to the Government's claim in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the target set for 100% enrolment for boys and girls in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No Sir. There are no official UNICEF publications or reports which state that half of Indian children do not go to Primary School.

(c) to (e) As per an independent sample survey conducted by Social & Rural Research Institute, a unit of IMRB international in 2009 on behalf of Ministry of Human Resource Development, the estimated number of children in the age group of 6-13 years is 19.5 crore. Out of this, the number of out of school children in the country was 81.5 lakhs. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides that every child in the 6-14 age group has a right to admission, attendance and completion of elementary education. The norms under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) have been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act. SSA provides inter alia for opening new schools, additional class rooms, teachers, free text books and uniforms, special training centres for out of school children, etc to implement the provisions of the RTE Act.