

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3349  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012  
CLOSING OF SCHOOLS  
Vishwanath Shri Adagur H

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

- (a) whether there are no provisions in the Right to Education Act to close any Government schools having inadequate number of students;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some Government schools were closed in the country due to non-availability of children and teachers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise including Karnataka; and
- (e) the steps being taken to avoid such situation in future?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 inter alia provides for establishment of schools by the appropriate Government or local authority within such areas or limits of neighbourhoods may be prescribed.

(c) to (e): State-wise number of Government schools reported under the District Information System for Education (DISE) for 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 is at Annexure. While the number of government schools has increased from 10,35,178 in 2008-09 to 10,63,230 in 2010-11, some States, such as Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Haryana, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Rajasthan, etc have reported reduction in the number of Government schools over this period, due to merger of primary and upper primary schools and closure of schools on account of inadequate number of children. The State Governments are required to establish schools in accordance with the area or limits of neighbourhood specified under the respective State RTE Rules and to undertake rationalisation from the viewpoint of ensuring availability of neighbourhood schools adhering to the norms and standards specified in the Schedule of the RTE Act.