

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5390
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
EDUCATION TO GIRLS
Haque Shri Sk. Saidul

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

- (a) whether the Government is in the process of finalizing a national vision document for girls' education in India in collaboration with UNICEF;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the gender gap in the elementary education is still high in comparison to other developing nations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof vis-a-vis other developing nations; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) A Girls' Education Vision Document and Road Map to 2015 had been developed by UNICEF and the same has been shared with the Ministry.

(c) to (e) In India the Gender Gap has been decreasing in elementary education. According to the District Information System for Education (DISE) 2010-11, the Gender Parity Index (GPI) at both primary and upper primary level stands at 0.94 as compared to Bangladesh 1.02, South Africa 0.93, China 1.03, Afghanistan 0.69, Pakistan 0.86 and Sri Lanka 1.01. (Source: UNESCO Global Education Digest 2010). Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) provide for targeted provisions to promote education of girls. These include encouraging States to recruit 50% women teachers from among teachers sanctioned under SSA, providing for an 'Innovation fund' per district, which can inter alia be utilised for need based interventions to ensure better attendance and retention of girls, free textbooks and uniforms up to class VIII, separate toilets for girls, development of model schools in clusters, bridge courses for older girls, early childhood care and education centres in/near schools in convergence with ICDS, teachers' sensitisation programmes to promote gender equity, gender sensitive teaching learning materials including textbooks, and intensive community mobilisation efforts. In addition, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) are set up as residential upper primary schools for girls from SC, ST, OBC & Muslim communities.