

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6620
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012
ENROLMENT RATE
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite intensive enrolment of children into the schools, retention of the students in the schools will remain a problem at different levels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof State-wise, including Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and the current year for SCs, STs and minorities; and
- (c) the steps being taken to correct the situation in the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b): As per Statistics of School Education (SSE), 2009-10 (Provisional), the drop-out rate at the elementary level (class I-VIII) is 42.39. The SSE does not provide the drop-out rate for minorities separately. The State-wise details of drop-out rate for all categories of students and for SC, ST students for the year 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 for elementary level are annexed.

(c): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates compulsory enrolment, retention and completion of elementary education for all the children of 6-14 years of age. SSA framework for implementation and norms have been revised to align them with the provisions of the RTE Act. A multi-pronged approach has been adopted for retention. This includes, inter alia, the opening of schools in the neighbourhood, improvement of school infrastructure and facilities, residential hostels for children in habitations un-served by regular schools and also for children without adult protection, recruitment of additional teachers, provision of text-books and uniforms to children, special training for Out-of-School children etc. In addition, SSA also provides for specific interventions for girls, SC, ST, and Muslim community. The Mid-day-Meal programme also contributes to increased retention rates throughout the country.