

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5485
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
LEARNING ABILITY OF STUDENTS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether enrolment in schools for education has increased due to funding by the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the students' learning ability has not improved because of lack of creativity among the teachers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with other reasons for the low learning ability of children; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to upgrade the skills of Government school teachers?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Government funding under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has had a positive impact on the enrolment of children in schools at elementary level. As per Statistics of School Education (SSE), the enrolment at elementary level increased from 15.87 crore in 2001-02 to 19.51 crore in 2009-10. Two rounds of National Learners' Achievement Surveys have been completed by National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and these surveys have revealed improvements in the overall learning levels. A comparative table of the progress in respect of the two rounds is given below:

Subject	Class III	Class V	Class VIII	Round-I	Round-II	Round-I	Round-II	Round-I	Round-II
				2003-04	2007-08	2001-02	2005-06	2002-03	2007-08
Mathematics	58.25%	61.89%	46.51%	48.46%	39.17%	42.71%			
Language	63.12%	67.84%	58.57%	60.31%	53.86%	56.57%			
EVS	NA	NA	50.30%	52.19%	NA	NA			
Science	NA	NA	NA	41.30%	42.73%				

NA: Not applicable.

NCERT has commenced the third round of Achievement Survey. The findings of the third round conducted recently for class V indicate that there is enhancement in the level of achievement in most States.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) framework of implementation and SSA norms have been revised to correspond with the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act. National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) has notified the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible to be a school teacher and has also made the Teacher Eligibility Test mandatory for the recruitment of teachers. States have been advised to ensure that untrained teachers acquire the requisite teacher qualifications within the time frame mandated under the RTE Act. The revised SSA norms provide for 30-day induction training for the newly recruited teachers, 10-day residential in-service training for all teachers, 10 one-day meetings with teachers at the Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) level and regular on-site academic support to the teachers. States have also been advised to undertake curriculum renewal in accordance with the quality parameters laid down in section 29 of the RTE Act.