

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3105

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012

DISCRIMINATION IN SCHOOLS

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

(a) whether in view of the increasing number of cases of Dalit and Economically Weaker Section students admitted in schools under the RTE have prompted Union Government to lay down stringent guidelines asking States to take corrective measures and set up redressal mechanism;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported from different States, State-wise;

(c) whether States have established such mechanism to save students from weaker sections, dalits and disadvantaged groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a)& (b): There have been sporadic media reports of discrimination against children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections admitted in private schools under section 12(1)(c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Such matters are immediately referred by the Central Government to the concerned State/UT for enquiry and remedial action.

(c): The RTE Act provides for monitoring of the rights of the child by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and the State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs), and redressal of grievances by the local authorities. The State Governments have set up State Commissions for the Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs)/Right to Education Protection Authority (REPA) for the purpose and notified decentralized grievance redressal systems.

(d): The Government of India has issued guidelines dated 26th October, 2012 to all States/UTs for implementation of Clause (c) of sections 8 & 9 of the RTE Act regarding non-discrimination of children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections in schools, which has been hosted on Ministry's website mhrd.gov.in. for the State Governments and local authorities to take appropriate steps to ensure that all schools adhere to these guidelines.