

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3144
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a number of children still remain out of school despite implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the number of out of school children in the country, State-wise/UT-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to get these children enrolled in the schools and ensure 100% literacy in the country?

Answer

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

- (a): An independent sample survey conducted in 2005 revealed an estimated 1.34 crore children as being out of school a figure which was reduced to an estimated 81.50 lakh when a similar survey was repeated in 2009.
- (b): The principal reasons children remain out of school a figure are poverty, child labour, domestic work and sibling care especially for girls, disability, migration of families and unrest in areas of civil strife. State-wise figures of out of school children are Annexed.
- (c): The Government has brought in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 which under Section 10 provides that it is the duty of every parent or guardian to admit his child to a neighbourhood school and under section 6 for the State to provide a neighbourhood school to facilitate the education of children in the age group of 6-14 years. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is the programme to meet the objectives of the RTE Act, has sanctioned 3.84 lakh schools, 16.02 lakh additional classrooms, 5.84 lakh toilets and 2.21 lakh drinking water facilities and 19.65 lakh posts of teachers across the country so far, towards meeting the objective of universal elementary education.