

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:361

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012

ENROLMENT OF GIRLS IN SCHOOLS

Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Singh Shri Dhananjay

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

- (a) the details of gender-wise enrolment of students in the primary, upper primary and secondary schools during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the incentives given or being given to the States to increase the enrolment of girls in schools;
- (c) whether the Government conducts any nation-wide exercise to evaluate and assess attendance levels of children in the elementary schools and if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the methodology adopted by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to check decline in enrolment of girls in schools and improve their literacy?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M PALLAM RAJU)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 361 FOR 19.12.2012 BY SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH AND SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR, M.Ps. REGARDING ENROLMENT OF GIRLS IN SCHOOLS

(a): As per the Statistics of School Education brought out by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the State-wise and gender-wise details of gross enrolment ratios in primary, upper primary and secondary stages during the last three years 2008-09 (Provisional), 2009-10 (Provisional) and 2010-11 (Provisional) are annexed.

(b): The Government has been making consistent progress in meeting the goal of Universal Elementary Education through implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Under SSA, several interventions to promote education of girls are undertaken which include opening of schools in the neighborhood to make access easier for girls, appointment of additional teachers including women teachers, free textbooks, free uniforms, separate toilet for girls, early childhood care and education centres in/near schools in convergence with ICDS programmes etc., teachers' sensitization programmes to promote girls participation and gender-sensitive teaching-learning materials including textbooks and intensive community mobilization efforts to promote girls education. In addition in educationally backward blocks with female literacy rates below the national average, the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) Scheme of residential upper primary schools for girls and the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) for intensification of community mobilization and cluster based intervention have been undertaken for addressing issues of girls education. A scheme for construction & running of girls' hostel in secondary & higher secondary schools is also being implemented since 2009-10 in educationally backward blocks in the country to improve access and retention of the girl child.

(c): A study done by independent agencies on assessing attendance levels of children in elementary schools was conducted in 2009 which showed that attendance rates of girls at primary level were 70.6% against an overall average of 68.5% and 78.7% at upper primary levels against the overall average of 75%.

(d): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, which became operational with effect from 1st April, 2010, provides that every child in the 6 to 14 age-group shall have a right to free and compulsory education till completion of elementary education. The SSA Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act 2009 and SSA is being implemented in accordance with the norms and standards of the RTE Act to enhance enrolment. The Mid Day Meal Scheme is also being implemented with a view to enhance enrolment and retention of children in school. Further, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan which has been launched for universal access to secondary education, aims at removing gender and socio-economic disparities in access to education.